



TWINSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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September 4, 2020

Dear Tiger Family,

I hope this week, our Soft Reopening Week, provided opportunities for you to reconnect with our administrators, teachers, and classified staff members. Many parents and staff members contacted me to provide feedback regarding our Soft Reopening. Overwhelmingly, it appears that the TCSD Soft Reopening Week was a huge success! We, as a school district, found great benefit to this week as we were able to identify processes that needed to be adjusted prior to our first official day for school, next Tuesday, September 8th. Thank you, one and all!

The purpose for this correspondence today is to provide you with a couple updates. First, for parents who drop their children off at school...in the event that you arrive after the first bell, please ask your son/daughter to enter the school through the Welcome Center entrance. There, a member of the staff will take your child's temperature before they proceed to their classroom.

Secondly, please refer to the District website for revised copies of our District's Reopening Plan and our Smart Restart Communications Guidance Document. Both documents were revised this week to include updated information. With regard to the District's Reopening Plan, language was revised to align with the Board of Education's new policy which requires students in Kindergarten through the twelfth grade to wear masks while in school. The language was also revised to include the recommendation that preschool students wear masks in school. Further, language is now included that informs all that students' temperatures are taken by members of our staff upon their arrival to school. Other minor revisions were also made.

With regard to a significant revision to the Smart Restart Communications Guidance Document...yesterday, I was asked by officials from the Summit County Public Health Department to revise the flow charts found on pages three (3) and seven (7) under the grey boxes, "Negative COVID-19/Other Illness". In the event that a student or adult is tested for COVID-19 and the test results are negative, that individual must provide the District nurse (for students) or the Director of Human Resources (for staff) written documentation of an alternative diagnosis (e.g., strep throat). Without this written medical documentation from a primary care physician, the individual who tested negative for COVID-19 must be excluded from school/work for ten (10) days. This is a pretty significant adjustment to our procedures, thus I want to bring this matter to your attention.

Speaking of the Summit County Public Health Department, attached is a letter from Health Commissioner Donna Skoda that we've been asked to forward to you. The letter describes in detail the process known as contact tracing.

Also attached is a release from the Summit County Public Health Department regarding a Pop-Up COVID-19 Testing Site on September 12 & 13, 2020. Please refer to the attachment for details.



I want to thank our family members who attend our various athletic competitions. Our athletes as well as members of our Tiger Marching Band, appreciate your presence and your support. Please be advised, however, that all spectators are required to wear face masks while at school district sponsored events, as well as practice social distance of six (6) feet or greater. Our Board of Education is required to identify Compliance Officers who are present at all school district events. The role of the Compliance Officer is to remind participants and spectators about health protocols as required by the Ohio Department of Public Health and the Summit County Public Health Department, as well as Twinsburg Board of Education Policy. Additionally, we were informed that the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) will send observers to events to audit our health and safety protocols. If found to be out of compliance, public health officials may close the event and/or remove spectators from future events.

Please know that I recognize that the new health and safety protocols may not be favorable, however, they are necessary to ensure a safe and healthy school environment. Further, they are necessary so that our students can continue to enjoy their participation in athletics and extra-curricular/co-curricular activities. It truly takes all of us to do the right things so that everyone can continue to enjoy these events. In the event that a student or adult has a medical reason for not being able to wear a mask while on school property, he/she can obtain a copy of the District's Mask Exemption Form from a building principal. These forms should be returned to the building principal once completed and signed.

Labor Day weekend is always a great time to rest, relax, and recharge. I hope you enjoy the next few days as you prepare for the beginning of our new school year!

Sincerely,
Kathi Powers
Superintendent

