



TWINSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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January 7, 2022

Dear Twinsburg Schools Family,

I am writing to you today with an update regarding action taken by the Twinsburg Board of Education on Wednesday, January 5th. During the Board Meeting, I introduced the recently released guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Ohio Department of Health as well as updated information provided by the Summit County Public Health Department.

As you know, our District continues to address the ongoing pandemic with health and safety protocols that, to the best of our ability, keep our students, our staff members, and our families as safe as possible given the spread of COVID-19. This has not been a simple task as the guidance we receive from health officials continues to evolve. Just this week we learned that individuals who received the first two doses of vaccine are now not considered fully vaccinated unless they have also received the booster vaccine five (5) months after the 2nd of the initial two doses. This latest news has great implications for our staff members and students.

Thus, after speaking with health officials at the Summit County Public Health Department, the following protocols were introduced to our Board and were thereafter authorized:

Mask to Stay

- This protocol is dependent upon whether the exposure occurs in school or elsewhere.
- "In School" is defined as being on-campus for any school sponsored activity and on our school buses/vans where the direct contact occurs.

In-School Exposure:

- Staff and students who are direct contacts to a COVID-positive person and who are NOT symptomatic will continue to come to school, no matter the vaccination status;
- If/when symptoms begin, the staff member/student is to isolate and get tested;
- Testing is recommended for non-symptomatic persons but testing is no longer a requirement for direct contacts unless symptoms begin; and
- The current mask mandate will remain in effect until further Board action is taken.

Out-of-School Exposure:

- Please refer to the attached flowchart provided by the Ohio Department of Health. The procedures outlined on this flowchart will be in effect for all Out-of-School Exposures.



Out-of-School Exposures, continued

- For those who are exposed out of school, the ability to return to On-Campus classes relies on vaccination status, including boosters;
- When exposed:
 - If vaccinations, including the booster, are not up-to-date, the person will need to stay home and wear a mask at all times;
 - Testing is recommended on Day 5. If the person tests positive, he/she should isolate for five (5) days after symptom onset, then rejoin school on Day 6 after symptom onset, if their symptoms improve and there isn't a fever for the last 24 hours (without medication);
 - If symptoms develop, the person should remain at home and follow the directions on the attached ODH flowchart;
 - Up-to-date vaccinated/boostered direct contacts are allowed to attend school. Again, our mask mandate remains in effect until further Board action is taken;
 - Contacts with previous COVID-19 infection in the last ninety (90) days can attend school once confirmation of past positive is verified; and
 - Please note, testing is no longer a requirement to be released from isolation/quarantine
- Again, please refer to the attached flowchart provided by the Ohio Department of Health for further information regarding Out-of-School Exposures.

Test to Play

This protocol will be used for all students involved in Athletics/Extracurricular activities who are currently "in season";

- Students who have been identified as a direct contact with a COVID-positive staff member or student and who are NOT exhibiting any COVID-related symptoms may continue to participate in the athletic/extracurricular activities as long as the following criteria are met:
 - Masks will be required at all times unless the student is actively participating in a physical activity, such as being on the court, dancing as a member of show choir, etc. For example, masks are required on the sidelines, in the locker rooms, on the buses, etc.;
 - Direct contacts to a COVID-positive person are REQUIRED to test on the initial day of notification of exposure to COVID-19;
 - If the direct contact is unable to take a proctored test on the initial day of notification, they are required to remain out of the activity until the sixth day after exposure.
 - Per the Ohio Department of Health, only proctored tests will be acceptable as the student will need to provide the printed proctored test results to his/her coach or advisor before they are permitted to return to the activity;
 - Per health officials, parents/guardians are responsible for securing the proctored test kit or the appointment at which a credentialed proctor will administer the test. However, please know that I am working to secure test kits to be used for this purpose, although I cannot guarantee there will always be an ample supply of test kits available;
 - In the event that your son/daughter is identified as the direct contact to a COVID-positive person and needs to take a proctored test, you will be notified by Mr. Linn, Mr. Ries, Mr. Fantone, or Mr. Schwed and provided guidance. Available test kits for this purpose are being managed from my office and not through the District Nurse.

We are preparing a guidance document that will further explain the aforementioned protocols; however, I wanted to provide this summary, in the meantime. As always, it is our intention to provide the safest environment for our students, our staff members, and our families, and we believe these new protocols will help us do so, while also expanding opportunities for our students and staff members to be on campus, once we return to On-Campus classes on January 24th.

Finally, attached is a media release from Summit County Public Health officials announcing a Drive-Thru Test Kit Distribution scheduled for tomorrow, Saturday, January 8, 2022.

Have a good weekend,
Kathi Powers, Superintendent