

CHESTER UPLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT Office of the Superintendent

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"For the Betterment of Our Children"

August 28, 2022

William F. King, Jr MD Medical Advisor CUSD

Chester Upland School District

Academic Year 2022-2023 Recommendations for Covid19 Prevention

We are filled with anticipation and optimism for the coming school year. We must acknowledge the incredible effort of the nursing, teaching, and administrative staff at CUSD in keeping our schools open and avoiding outbreaks of covid19 illness in our school district, and we are proud of the determination and resilience of our school students in thriving and succeeding during the pandemic.

During the coming school year our goal remains to make the school environment as unburdened and respectful of student learning while protecting students from Covid19 and other illnesses. Our policies will follow the recommendations of the CDC, Pennsylvania Department of Education, and Delaware County Health Department.

Masking - Wearing a well-fitting KN95 mask continues to be excellent protection from catching or spreading Covid19, but masks will not be mandatory for students or staff. Any student, teacher or staff member will be allowed to wear an appropriate Covid19 mask based on their own personal choice, without explanation.

Covid19 Testing - CUSD will make every effort to have rapid Covid19 testing available for our nursing staff to protect the student body. Students who have symptoms of possible Covid19 infection (Fever, cough, congestion, sore throat, body aches, headache, flu-like fatigue, chills) will be sent to the nurses' office for rapid Covid testing. Students who are positive will need to isolate themselves at home for 5 days.

Isolation & Quarantine - Students with positive Covid19 tests will be sent home to isolate for 5 days and asked to wear masks for 5 more days upon return to school. Students do not need repeat covid testing if asymptomatic after 5 days. If students have a return of symptoms and have a repeat positive Covid19 rapid test, they will be sent home and will need a doctor's note to return. Exposure to Covid19 is no longer a reason to quarantine at home, but students will be offered a rapid Covid19 test, if desired.

Vaccination - Covid19 Vaccinations are recommended and shown to be safe and effective for all school age children, ages 5-19. We will communicate with parents at the start of the school year and help to direct parents to vaccination sites at our area pharmacies, health centers and doctors' offices to get their children their Covid19 vaccines. Covid19 vaccinations are not required for school attendance or extracurricular activities, but all of us should recognize that our own vaccinations offer us the strongest protection against severe Covid19 illness.

Ventilation and Sanitation - CUSD will continue to provide extra effort to sanitize surfaces, to maintain enhanced air circulation and ventilation in our buildings. We will be strongly reinforcing excellent handwashing, and hygiene to protect our students and staff from Covid19 and other infections of concern, such as influenza or monkeypox. Special emphasis will be placed on good hygiene and sanitation in close contact activities, such as sports, performing arts, and music programs.

Flexibility - The Administration at CUSD continues to work with our on-call medical advisor to keep up to the minute awareness of changes in public health advice, and community risks and infection. If government recommendation or community risks change, we will change our procedures as needed to protect our students.

Respectfully

Dr. Crang L. Parkinson Superintendent of Schools