Dr. Andy Kohl, District Superintendent

Ms. Shelbie Dalton, Executive Director of Special Programs

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December 15, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

At last night's board meeting, the Board of Education approved a change in the district's COVID procedures that will go into effect starting today (Wednesday, December 15). If a student is considered a close contact to a COVID positive individual within the school setting, the parents/guardians will be notified via email by the school. If the close contact is asymptomatic, it is at the discretion of the parent/guardian whether to keep the student home, or send the student to school with a mask (recommended by DHSS and the CDC) or without. The parent/guardian must monitor the student for symptoms.

If symptoms develop, the District will adhere to board-approved policy EBB (Communicable Diseases) that states in part, "Students or employees with communicable diseases that pose a risk of transmission in school or at school activities (such as, but not limited to, chickenpox, influenza, and conjunctivitis) will be managed as required by law and in accordance with guidelines provided by the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and local county or city health departments. Such management may include, but is not limited to, exclusion from school or reassignment as needed for the health and safety of students and staff." This policy is consistent with the Board's authority under Section 167.191 RSMo.

The 3% metric previously set by the Board for a building to transition to masks required will still be in place. The number of positive COVID cases within the school setting will be the calculation used for determining if a building meets the 3% metric. The COVID-19 Dashboards on the district website will be updated to reflect the weekly reporting of positive cases only. Parents and students will continue to be notified by school administration if a transition to masks is required.

The change in the district COVID protocols does not affect the federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) requirement of masks on buses. Students and staff will continue to be required to wear masks while on District transportation.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue to navigate through COVID. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to the Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Dr. John Finnane, at ifinnane@warrensburgr6.org or 660-747-7823.

In a few days, the holiday break will begin, and so we wish you a safe and happy holiday and the start of a great new year with family and friends.

Andy