



Dear RCS Families,

Our students are settling nicely into classroom learning and our staff continues to build positive routines and relationships.

RCS will reach an important milestone the weekend of March 20-21 as a large portion of our staff will complete their COVID-19 vaccinations. This includes more than 300 teachers, paraeducators, long-term substitutes, secretaries, bus drivers, food service workers, technology professionals, maintenance staff, administrators, SAC caregivers, and more. We recognize that these staff members may experience temporary side effects, which have been reported across the country with the second dose.

There will be no school for students on Monday, March 22, 2021. This proactive measure provides an extra day for potential vaccination side effects to subside for our staff members. In addition, our staff will engage in professional development and collaboration in order to continue to refine best practices for in-person instruction as well as quarantine support.

Afterschool athletics and activities can proceed as scheduled on March 22, unless individual coaches and directors indicate otherwise. **In-person classes will resume on Tuesday, March 23**, according to regular school schedules. We are thankful to RCS families for making this accommodation to protect the wellness of our teachers, staff and professionals in various roles throughout the district.

As a reminder, March 19 marks the end of the third quarter for secondary students and is scheduled as a half day for all students in grades 6-12, including the RCS Virtual Campus and students enrolled in ATPS. Elementary students in TK- grade 5 will follow a regular full-day schedule. [Please click this link for a printable version of the adjusted schedule for March 19.](#)

Optional pre-spring break COVID-19 testing will be offered on Monday, March 22. This drive-up testing opportunity at an RCS location is a community service provided through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. The MDHHS also expects to offer a post-spring break testing opportunity for interested individuals. Details will follow.

To help families understand the current conditions within the district, we are continuing to provide a weekly report of the number of positive COVID-19 cases in RCS, along with the number of students and staff who are quarantined. Individual school communities are notified of building-specific cases as they occur and individuals who may be close contacts will receive instructions. After thoroughly reviewing the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) guidelines, we are unable to designate building-specific cases in order to protect student privacy.

The following information is from March 11, 2021. Please note that this information is reflective of a single point in time and includes in-person cases reported with the OCHD. We will continue to adapt our reporting processes as needed. Having cases present in school buildings does not indicate that the person's exposure occurred at school.

COVID-19 REPORTING IN-PERSON LEARNING - MARCH 11, 2021				
STUDENTS	POSITIVE AND SYMPTOMATIC CASES	PERCENT OF ACTIVE CASES PER STUDENT POPULATION	QUARANTINE (FOR THOSE EXPOSED)	PERCENT OF QUARANTINE CASES PER STUDENT POPULATION
ELEMENTARY	15	0.30%	56	1.15%
MIDDLE	15	0.51%	191	6.61%
HIGH/POST HIGH	25	0.59%	185	4.38%

STAFF	POSITIVE AND SYMPTOMATIC CASES	PERCENT OF ACTIVE CASES PER STAFF POPULATION	QUARANTINE (FOR THOSE EXPOSED)	PERCENT OF QUARANTINE CASES PER STAFF POPULATION
ELEMENTARY	3	0.46%	3	0.46%
MIDDLE	1	0.41%	1	0.41%
HIGH/POST HIGH	3	0.61%	2	0.40%
OTHER	4	0.91%	2	0.45%

**Other includes: administration, transportation, food services, custodial, the facility operations center, RCS Caring Steps and preschool.*

Additionally, under a Michigan Department of Health and Human Services epidemic order, school-associated COVID-19 cases, as defined by the MDHHS, must be reported within 24 hours after being notified by the Oakland County Health Department. This information is located on our [website](#).

Our district administrators appreciate the cooperation and support of our families as we continue to balance in-person instruction with the realities of implementing COVID-19 mitigation and quarantine protocols. We continue to evaluate and adapt to keep our community safe while meeting the needs of our students.

Finally, we were especially pleased this week to recognize our high-school seniors who have earned outstanding achievements throughout their RCS academic careers. Congratulations, once again, to our National Merit Scholar Finalists and Semifinalists, Scholars of Highest Distinction, Scholars of Distinction, and Scholars of Achievement.

As we approach spring break and the final months of the school year, we wish your families well and thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully,

Debi Fragomeni
Deputy Superintendent for Teaching and Learning