



Dear RCS Families,

We hope you are enjoying the summer months and are able to spend quality time doing what you enjoy with those you love. Our teams are filled with excitement as we prepare to welcome children back to the buildings and the RCS Virtual Campus on Monday, Aug. 30, 2021.

Given the current environment, it is understandable that families may have some questions about plans for in-person instruction.

Rochester Community Schools will continue to follow the guidance of our federal, state, and county medical experts to ensure the safety and well-being of our school community.

We are encouraged that the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services lifted COVID-19 restrictions for gatherings and face masks, effective June 22, 2021. Unless there are significant changes in public health conditions, **RCS plans to return to familiar school routines and environments with limited restrictions.** This includes a full five-day schedule with in-person instruction.

At this time, guidance provided by MDHHS and the Oakland County Health Division indicates that **masks will be optional in schools, and vaccinations will not be mandatory.** It is important to note that **at no time will students or staff be discriminated against for their vaccination or mask-wearing preferences.** RCS abides by a respect code that ensures all members of our community will be safe, valued, and respected.

Additionally, **the Michigan High School Athletic Association does not currently require COVID-19 testing** for indoor and outdoor out-of-season activities.

Rochester Community Schools will continue to support healthy learning environments through mitigation measures, such as encouraging frequent handwashing and thoroughly cleaning and sanitizing buildings.

Detailed back-to-school information and routines will be shared closer to the start of school to ensure families receive the most current guidance.

As always, we are grateful for your support.

Sincerely,
Dr. Robert Shaner
Superintendent