



PENNCREST SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Administration Office
18741 State Highway 198
Saegertown, Pennsylvania 16433
Telephone: (814) 337-1600
<http://www.penncrest.org/>



KENNETH V. NEWMAN
Assistant Superintendent

DR. TIMOTHY S. GLASSPOOL
Superintendent

KRISTEN ECKART
Business Manager

PATTI FIELY
Director of Student Services

AMANDA PORTER
Director of Technology

DAVID DICKSON
Director of Facilities and Transportation

TO: PENNCREST Families
FROM: Dr. Timothy S. Glasspool, Superintendent *LSG*
DATE: September 13, 2021
RE: *COVID and in-person learning*

Over the past two weeks, district administrators have communicated with hundreds of families regarding COVID mitigation efforts, masks and positive COVID-19 cases. Most of our interactions revolve around the wearing of masks in school. The position of the district continues to be clearly stated. **All students, staff and visitors must wear masks** as outlined in the [August 31st Department of Health Secretary's Order](#), unless that individual has a documented section 3.B exemption. Masks and the lawfulness of face-coverings is contentious. Sides are polarized and our students are caught in the middle. Regardless of personal, political, medical or legal belief's, the district must continue to enforce this order. The PA Departments of Health and Education are beginning to push for school exclusion for non-compliance. **The mask Order extends to all afterschool activities, including spectators at indoor athletic events.**

The district is also required to **case investigate and contact trace** each positive student and staff COVID-19 case. Our results are electronically reported to the PA DoH. Resulting close contacts are quarantined, which means exclusion from in-person learning. We believe that in-person is best for PENNCREST students, their families, and our community.

As of today, we have **70 laboratory confirmed positive COVID-19 cases**. We are fortunate that none of our cases have resulted in death or extended hospital stays. Last year, we had a total of 155 laboratory confirmed positive COVID-19 cases. We are on track to exceed this number by Halloween.

Please continue to work positively with our teachers, principals, and staff now and throughout the 21-22 school year. **We need unity and cooperation to continue uninterrupted in-person learning.**