## LAMPETER-STRASBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

KEVIN S. PEART, ED.D. Superintendent PHONE (717) 464-3311 FAX (717) 464-4699 kevin\_peart@L-Spioneers.org

November 25, 2020

Dear L-S Parents and Guardians,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your collective health and safety efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic. We appreciate your communication with our school health teams and your dedication to completing the <u>Daily COVID Screening</u> before sending your students to school each day. While we have experienced cases in a few of our buildings, we have been able to utilize in-depth case investigation, contact tracing, and collaboration with local health professionals and the PA Department of Health to confirm that cases to date have originated outside of school and are not currently being spread within our buildings.

While we currently have no plans to close schools or switch to a fully-virtual environment for our learners, I would like to urge families to make preparations should such a switch become necessary. Moving to virtual instruction would only be required if we experience a spread of COVID within our buildings or become unable to appropriately staff classrooms due to quarantine. We would make any potential shift to online instruction on a building by building basis. Closures would be measured in days, not weeks.

On a state level, Governor Wolf and Secretary Levine held a press conference earlier this week to outline new mitigation efforts to lessen community spread. The measures included new mandates for school districts located in counties in the "substantial transmission stage," which currently includes Lancaster County. The new orders require that school districts follow the <u>Updated Universal Face Covering Order</u> and <u>associated guidance</u> and the <u>Recommendations for Pre-K to 12 Schools Following Identification of a Case(s) of COVID</u>. I encourage you to review both of these directives to learn more.

The District's previously approved <u>Health and Safety Plan</u> incorporates all of these outlined safety protocols and mitigation efforts. We also plan to submit an "Attestation Ensuring Implementation of Mitigation Efforts" form to the PA Department of Education to continue in-person instruction under the updated mitigation guidance.

Thank you again for continuing to support our students and staff by following all components of our Health and Safety Plan as well as the updated mitigation efforts. I am confident that we WILL continue to be successful with the common understanding that . . .

Kids come first. We ARE L-S. We ARE family. We are ALL in this together!

I wish each of you a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Kevin S. Peart, Ed.D. Superintendent