



PENNCREST

EMPOWERING LIFE-LONG LEARNERS

January 3, 2022

PENNCREST School Community:

Happy New Year! I wish each of you health and happiness in 2022.

Over the winter break, several COVID protocols were announced by the PA Department of Health. Most significant was PA DoH alert [PA-HAN 615](#) on December 30, 2021.

- This guidance replaces PA-HAN 607 and **provides clarification on isolation and quarantine recommendations for persons exposed to SARS-CoV-2.**
- Persons who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate for 5 days. If after 5 days, the patient is asymptomatic or has resolving symptoms, their isolation period is over; however, they should still wear a mask around others until day 10.
- Persons who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 and have received a booster vaccine or are within 6 months of receiving their primary vaccine series should wear a **mask** around others for 10 days, but do not need to quarantine.
- All exposed persons regardless of vaccination should test on Day 5 if possible.

At this time, there are no changes to our COVID mask protocols. On December 13, 2021 the district announced that **wearing of a mask or face covering in our schools was not required.** The **district continues to strongly recommend** individuals who are not vaccinated wear a mask or face covering in school. All PA schools must report positive cases of COVID-19 to PA DoH for case investigation, contact tracing, and issuance of quarantine and/or isolation orders; and **exclude from school children and staff showing symptoms of a communicable disease.** School officials have the authority to restrict people who are at risk of spreading COVID-19 from entering the school building. Schools do not need a quarantine order to take action to protect the health and safety of students and staff.

We appreciate your continued cooperation and support. Please contact the building principal with all questions. **Most importantly, do not come to school if you are sick.**

Sincerely,

Dr. Timothy S. Glasspool
Superintendent