

PARKLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Educating For Success, Inspiring Excellence.

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February 9, 2022

Dear Parkland Families,

On Monday night, during our School Board Committee Meetings, we discussed making some modifications to the Health and Safety Plan. This is largely because COVID-19 metrics, which help guide decisions related to our Health and Safety Plan, have been trending in a positive direction.

Since January 18, 2022, when the Parkland School Board approved the updated Plan, our community has experienced a decline in both community and school cases, all students have had the opportunity to become fully vaccinated, and anyone over the age of 12 has been able to receive a vaccine booster. Additionally, case counts across the county, hospitalizations, the positivity rate, and the rate of transmission have all trended down over the past few weeks. While keeping our schools open for full time inperson instruction within a safe environment remains our number one priority, we recognize that this includes a responsibility to move our community closer to a sense of normalcy. To that end, we are announcing the following modifications to our COVID-19 mitigation strategies.

Effective on the following dates, Parkland School District will be instating the changes outlined below:

- February 10 Contact Tracing will no longer be conducted by school personnel
- February 10 Quarantining of Asymptomatic Individuals (except for unvaccinated household contacts) will end
- February 14 Parkland will move to Tier 2 of the Face Covering Decision Matrix (face coverings are recommended, but not required)

It is important to note that we are still responsible for reporting positive cases to the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH). For this reason, please continue to use the <u>Health Screener Tool</u> and report positive cases to your school nurse who will report to them to the DOH.

Parkland will continue to implement symptom screening, enhanced cleaning and sanitizing, personal hygiene reminders, and social distancing to the maximum extent feasible. We will continue our weekly monitoring of data to remain flexible and responsive to a need to move to a more or less restrictive environment and will communicate those changes when necessary.

Lastly, we want to stress that if your student is feeling ill and/or develops COVID-19 symptoms, please keep your student home.

For a link to the detailed presentation that was shared and discussed during the School Board meetings and a video explanation regarding the changes, please visit our Health and Safety Plan webpage <u>here</u>.

If you have any questions, please contact your building principal.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mark Madson Superintendent of Schools