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Dear Parents and Guardians,

The health of our students, staff, and community is important to us. Let's all work together to remain vigilant and keep our schools as well as possible.

As we enter cold, flu, and travel season, please be reminded that you are expected to monitor your student(s) every morning for symptoms of illness. Please do not send your student(s) to school and contact your building nurse if there are signs of illness in your household.

We will continue to exclude/quarantine students according to protocols and guidance from the Warren County Health Department. Students who must quarantine due to travel or symptoms will be eligible for virtual instruction. Students who are sick should be absent from both school and virtual instruction so that rest and recuperation can occur. If a student is absent for any other reason (ie: illness, vacation, appointments, etc.), the student will be recorded as absent and will be responsible for making up any work missed as in the past. Students absent for these reasons do not meet the criteria for access to virtual learning and the attendance record will reflect an absence. Communication to the school nurse regarding absences is essential in order to confirm quarantine status and gain access to virtual instruction.

Virtual instruction will provide an opportunity for students to hear what is going on in the classroom. Materials will be gathered for parent-pick-up as needed. Students can look up their assignments through Google. In addition, students who have been verified to be on quarantine through the nurse's office will be provided with a Zoom or Google Meet link through their Google Classroom within 24 hours. If a student is sent home from school and placed on quarantine, access to the live stream will begin the following day.

Students who are attending class through the livestream must uphold the same behavioral expectations as in the classroom. Disruptive behavior and background noise become a distraction for all in attendance and cannot be tolerated. Continued disruptions by the student, family members, or pets will result in removal from the livestream.

Please be reminded that students should not be attending school if the following conditions are met:

- any one of the following: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new loss of taste/smell
- or
- at least two of the following: fever, chills, muscle aches, headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion, runny nose

Additionally, do not send your unvaccinated student(s) to school if anyone in your household is exhibiting the symptoms as listed above and/or if anyone in your household is currently being tested for Covid-19.

As the holidays are approaching, the following travel guidelines should be reviewed if you plan to travel. These travel guidelines pertain to travel lasting 24 hours or longer to states or US territories other than those connected to New Jersey, such as Pennsylvania, New York, and Delaware.

Vaccinated Individuals: People who are fully vaccinated with an FDA-authorized vaccine or a vaccine authorized for emergency use by the World Health Organization can travel safely and return to school upon their return. In this case, a student vaccination card should be on file in the health office.

Unvaccinated Individuals: Please be aware, if you are traveling, as per recommendations from the county health department, we are still requiring quarantine for unvaccinated individuals following travel outside of states contiguous to NJ for students who are unvaccinated. The quarantine period is 10 full days without Covid testing or 7 full days if a negative Covid test is received between days 3-5. Please be aware that we will accept either a rapid antigen test or a PCR test, but we are not accepting home-based tests at this time.

Please know that we are continuing to do everything possible to keep our students and staff safe during these trying times. As a community, we can continue to work together to keep everyone healthy. As always, we thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Melissa Sabol & Jennifer Gallegly

Superintendent/ Principal, MVS & Principal, ATS