



Conestoga Valley School District
2110 Horseshoe Road
Lancaster, PA 17601



August 22, 2021

CV Families –

As we head into the school year **tomorrow**, the following updated procedures will be in place.

- Due to the inability at this time for our students aged 11-years-old and younger to get vaccinated, we will put in place additional mitigation efforts at our elementary buildings.
 - We will reference the guidelines that we received from PDE last year with regard to considering the shift to virtual learning; namely the number of active positive cases in a building and use them to address the wearing of masks at our elementary buildings.
 - As such, we will use the following thresholds:
 - Leola – 5 active cases
 - Brownstown – 6 active cases
 - Smoketown – 7 active cases
 - Fritz – 8 active cases
- Rather than shift to a virtual model when we hit those numbers, we will implement a two-week mandatory wearing of masks for everyone in the building. After the two-week period, the number of cases will be reassessed. If the number is below the threshold, the wearing of masks will return to being optional. If the number remains at the threshold, or raises to that level at a later time, we will repeat the two-week mandatory wearing of masks.
 - The two-week timeframe coincides with the baseline 10-day isolation period for people who have tested positive for COVID-19.
- We will continue to provide daily updates of active positive cases, just as we did last year on our COVID Dashboard found on our website. Keep in mind, that when a person has completed their isolation period and returns to school, the number of cases drops; this shift to mandatory masks is not a cumulative process, but rather a measure of current, active cases.
- Notification of the shift will occur on the day after we receive information on the “trigger” case (that case that puts us at the threshold). For example, if we get notified on Wednesday of the trigger case, we will notify everyone on Thursday that we will begin our two-week mandatory mask wearing on Friday (i.e, September 10). As long as the numbers go down, we will shift back to optional wearing of masks on that second Friday after the shift (i.e, September 24). The reason for the next-day notification is to give parents, students and staff preparation time.
- Since all secondary students have the opportunity to receive the COVID-19 vaccination, we will continue to follow a plan that includes the optional wearing of masks.

- All other components of the plan as previously stated will continue:
 - Mandatory wearing of masks on busses
 - Awareness of social distancing
 - Contact tracing without CV-mandated quarantine; positive cases do need to isolate for 10 days
 - Use of proper hygiene practices
 - Approved building cleaning processes
 - Reminder to stay home if you are sick

Just like last year, we are committed to having our schools open for in-person instruction and believe that is the best way to provide students with a positive, beneficial educational program. Being in a situation where we need to close a school for multiple days or weeks, due to a COVID outbreak, is something we want to take every measure to avoid. Absence of the ability to be vaccinated, we believe this measured response to positive cases in the individual elementary schools will create a pro-active response to avoiding a large outbreak and school closure.

We will continue to show respect to all students, parents, faculty and staff at all times. We are a community diverse in thought and opinion, but one with a positive focus on our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zuilkoski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'Z' at the beginning.

Dave Zuilkoski, EdD
Superintendent