

30 July, 2021

Dear BSCSD Parents and Caregivers –

As some of you of you may be aware, Saratoga County is now classified as at “Substantial Risk” for community spread of the COVID-19 virus according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). After consulting with our District Physician and the Saratoga County Health Commissioner, we will be changing our current health and safety plans as indicated in my [July 26 message](#). Specifically, beginning on Monday, August 2, 2021:

1. All students and staff *must* wear an appropriate mask at all times while *inside* any of our buildings except when eating or drinking. (Certain staff members have additional flexibility when they are alone in their workspace and seated.)
2. In general, students and staff should maintain 3 feet of social distancing whenever possible.
3. Unvaccinated individuals including our students under age 12 who are ineligible for the vaccination at this time must also wear a mask when outdoors on our campuses when 3 feet of distancing cannot be maintained (e.g., recess). Program staff will be addressing this with our students next week. We do not yet know if this will apply to student athletes for the fall season and will update you once we have that information.

In the coming days we anticipate receiving guidance from the NYS Department of Health on masking, testing, and related restrictions for our fall reopening on September 8, 2021. We will update you as soon as we have received and reviewed this information with our internal teams, our District Physician, and the County Health Department.

As a reminder, please:

- keep your child home if they are not feeling well;
- have your child tested for COVID if they are showing symptoms and report any positive cases to our [covidreport@bscsd.org](mailto:covidreport@bscsd.org) mailbox; and
- continue to practice hand washing or, where soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer to sanitize with your child.

While I understand the frustrations that may come with this news, please know that we are taking and will continue to take the steps necessary to continue to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff so that we can have all students fully return to school five days a week beginning in September.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [schoolopening@bscsd.org](mailto:schoolopening@bscsd.org).

Ken Slentz  
Superintendent of Schools