

January 20, 2022

Dear BSCSD Parents and Caregivers:

Last week a number of changes were made to the NYS guidance documents and rules that we follow in our COVID-19 management plan. All of these changes as well as links to the various documents and forms are now outlined on our *Coping with COVID-19* webpage. As noted there, the biggest change is that contact tracing of those individuals who have been exposed to a positive case is no longer required by New York State as the focus has shifted to testing so as to better ensure that individuals who are sick stay at home. Although contact tracing is no longer required, we will continue to work closely with Saratoga County Public Health in conducting limited tracing in a few high risk areas as detailed on the webpage. Please review the page as well as *The Scotties Scoop* page and let us know at schoolopening@bscsd.org if you have any questions about these changes.

In the meantime, we are starting to see our positive case numbers decline from the past few weeks and are certainly hopeful that this is a sign of things to come as medical experts are predicting. That said, our collective diligence in keeping ourselves and each other healthy remains critical. We continue to be thankful for everyone's focus on keeping our kids in school and giving them every opportunity possible in their learning and overall school experience.

Thanks very much.

Ken

Ken Slentz Superintendent of Schools Ballston Spa CSD