

## A Message from the Superintendent

Dear BSCSD and Parents and Caregivers:

A few updates for your attention this afternoon.

**1. Class of 2021 Graduation** - This afternoon we notify the senior class and their parents that the restrictions previously in place for graduation at SPAC this year have been lifted and this is now a “typical” graduation for this year’s class. There will be no limits on capacity; no social distancing required; no masks required, although we still encourage unvaccinated individuals to wear masks; and no COVID testing or proof of vaccination will be required.

**2. Positive Case** - Today we were notified of a Malta Avenue student who has tested positive for COVID-19. As a result, 24 students and one teacher have been placed in mandatory quarantine by the Saratoga County Public Health Services. Please (please!) continue to notify us at [COVIDreport@bscsd.org](mailto:COVIDreport@bscsd.org) if you have symptoms, been knowingly exposed to an individual who has tested positive, if you have traveled outside of the state to a non-contiguous state, or if you have tested positive. Please note that masks are still required in K-12 schools and that school events must continue to follow the NYS Department of Health COVID health and safety protocols.

**3. Masking and Restrictions** - As noted yesterday, the Governor and the New York State Department of Health are still requiring that masks be worn while inside our school buildings. Periodic mask breaks will still continue to be provided by staff when students are properly distanced. Additional clarification was issued later in the day yesterday that all other health department restrictions remain in place for K – 12 schools. While we are all ready to move on from these restrictions, unfortunately they are still in place and we are still obligated to follow them. Those districts that have chosen not to follow them have been told by the state that they will be forced to move to fully remote instruction and may be subject to financial penalties.

**4. Next Year** - We are still awaiting guidance from the state on what restrictions, if any, will be in place for the fall reopening. As soon as we have this information, we will notify you and plan accordingly. In the meantime, our working assumption is that we will be fully reopened.

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

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Ballston Spa CSD