



September 28, 2020

Dear Pacelli Families,

I just want to take a moment to update all of you on where things are regarding Covid-19 as it relates to Pacelli Catholic Schools one month into the school year.

We, like virtually every other school system in the state, have experienced a few individuals who have tested positive for Covid-19 within our system since Aug 25th. Many more have been determined to be close contacts to positive cases outside of our system as well as within our system, and have been, or currently are, under quarantine.

We have immediate action steps that we follow once a positive case is confirmed. If you, or someone in your family is confirmed as positive, please inform us as soon as possible rather than waiting for public health to inform us so we can set the wheels in motion. Your information will be kept confidential as we cannot share any identifiable information. Even before Public Health is able to do the Contact Tracing that they are responsible for, we will internally make our best judgement call as to who may have been a close contact (within 6 feet of the individual for more than 15 minutes in a 24 hour period). We want to continue to emphasize to our students and families, the importance of keeping our cohorts as small as possible and reinforcing social distancing. We make every effort to do so internally with our younger kids, but please also encourage your older kids to limit the scope of who they "hang out" with and the importance of wearing their mask and washing their hands until we can hopefully return to something closer to normal.

As stated above, the first level of close contact is usually the class group, which will most often be sent home to quarantine. This will happen the day of notification, depending on the time - we appreciate your understanding on this. There may be others who are added to or taken off the quarantine list such as fellow athletes. An exposure quarantine to a positive case is for 14 days, BUT If the individual who tested positive had symptoms prior to testing and had hopefully stayed home, there is a good chance that the length of time the rest of his/her cohort needs to stay home will be less as the start date for a quarantine begins on the date of last exposure, not the date we are informed of the positive test. Another important reason to stay home if ill.

We anticipate most of our quarantine cases to be on the class level, although as kids get older the breadth of their exposure tends to grow.

As you know, Governor Evers has extended the mask mandate into November. We will be requiring masks, at a minimum, until we return to school in January. Depending on where

Portage County's case level is at the time, that will inform us as to the next time we will review that policy.

We know this is a frustrating time for everyone, but we want to thank you for your understanding and support. We may not always be able to provide you all of the information you want, we know being called to pick up your child can be a hardship, and we empathize with the challenges of remote learning - be assured, we want your kids here in person too! The more conscientious all of us can be in following the guidelines the better, not just for our sake, but for our Pacelli family's sake!

We want to encourage open communication with all of you as we continue to work through this school year. In that spirit, we have a short [two question survey](#) we would like you to fill out at your convenience.

All you need to do is click this link: <https://forms.gle/UUB3c4vg9tP1b9ra9>.

Additionally, you will see an updated guideline following this letter regarding the decision tree we all need to go through if our children or staff are not feeling well or have come in contact with someone who is positive with Covid-19. The closer all of us can follow this, the better chance we have keeping as much of our student in person

Thank you for all of your support and understanding - together we are #PacelliStrong!

In Faith,

Cindy Weber
President