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January 19, 2022

Dear Moravia Families,

Last week, the New York Department of Health gave local health departments the ability to suspend contact tracing. This means if you test positive for COVID-19 or are in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, you will no longer get a call from a county or state COVID-19 case investigator. Additionally, on January 14, 2022, we received the most recent update from the NYS Department of Health regarding COVID-19 isolation and quarantine guidance.

The updated guidance, combined with the change in contact tracing requirements, presents new challenges for local school districts as we continue to work together with the Cayuga County Health Department to keep schools open during this most recent surge of the virus.

Yesterday, I met with officials from the Cayuga County Health Department and the other area superintendents to discuss the updated guidance.

Most of the plan remains unchanged, but there were updates made to reflect the most recent guidance we recently received. As I mentioned previously, formal contact tracing through the Cayuga County Health Department has ended. We will continue to review positive cases and communicate with families when we are made aware of a positive case. Asymptomatic individuals (students/staff members) who may have been in contact with a positive case can be tested at school with parental consent. Any student that is not fully vaccinated at time of school exposure, will be required to test at school and wear a district-provided KN95 mask for the length of the quarantine period. Without mask compliance and consent to test, we will be required to follow the updated guidance for COVID-19 isolation and quarantine (see flowcharts).

These measures are in place to keep our school community safe and to maximize in-person opportunities.

Please review the latest updates on our Covid resource page - https://www.moraviaschool.org/covid

As always, please feel free to reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

John P. Birmingham

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