



## Frank Solomon *Superintendent*

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Good Morning Noble Public Schools,

A new year has begun, Week #1 of the 2020-2021 school year has now been completed. Our numbers on Monday, August 16, 2021, pending notices this weekend will be: 21 confirmed student positives, 3 confirmed staff member positives, 152 students and 1 member of staff quarantined, due to Contact Tracing and Exposure.

Rules, regulations, procedures and protocols are changing daily. We meet with our local medical professionals, we communicate with the Cleveland County Health Department, the Oklahoma State Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control. We are aware that today's procedures may not be tomorrow's procedures. We are aware that this leads to frustration and discontent amongst our community.

I am reaching out to you at this time on a personal level. During the last week I have heard the dissention, the hatred, the divisiveness, the profanity, the name calling, the divide that has enveloped our community, our state, and our nation. I am heartbroken to see and hear the comments from both sides about what is right and what is wrong. We continue to receive changing information about testing, masking, quarantining, vaccinations, etc. No matter the decision we make, people are going to be unhappy. We are truly concerned about the physical, mental and emotional health of all students and staff. It will always be our goal to maintain the health and safety of everyone. No one enjoys being quarantined, isolated, or wearing a mask, but we have the responsibility to protect at every opportunity. And we want to keep our school doors open!

I don't pretend to have the answers, but I do know that if we continue the positive cases at the rate at which we have started, it will be difficult if not impossible, to offer In-Person-Instruction all year. We believe that there is a time and place for online learning and that some students do well in that environment. Our students school careers have been impacted for three consecutive years due to this virus. Please consider wearing a mask, being vaccinated if able and willing, maintaining Social Distancing at every opportunity, and practicing great habits of personal hygiene. We don't have to agree on everything, but it is my hope that we can agree that kids need to be in school and we must do everything we can to ensure that happens.

The Delta Variant is highly contagious and often, no symptoms are visible. It is extremely important that if anyone in your family is exposed, is positive, or is displaying any type of sickness, that they remain at home until they have been cleared. Please do not take a chance of bringing any type of sickness into our schools. If anyone in your family is being tested or you are waiting on test results, please keep all children home until results have been received. We are depending upon each other to be proactive and vigilant to minimize the virus, and the devastating impact it can have.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support. Go Bears!

Frank Solomon  
Superintendent  
Noble Public Schools