



December 31, 2021

Dear Center Cass Families -

We are grateful for the blessings of 2021, but also look forward to new and exciting 2022! Please help us get the second half of in-person learning started right by following the bullets below.

- If your child is needing to quarantine from contracting the virus or being a close contact, please do not send them to school until they are cleared from the District Nurse.
- If your child is currently exhibiting any COVID related symptoms, regardless of their vaccination status, please do not send your child to school until they have a negative PCR test result. Please email the Building Principal and District Nurse as soon as possible so we are aware of your situation.
- If your student is required to quarantine but well enough to view a broadcast of the lessons inside the classroom, please email the request to the Building Principal as soon as possible.
- Regardless of whether your child is visibly symptomatic, please take their temperature before school in the mornings and if they register a fever, please do not send them to school.
- Although IDPH has adopted CDC's new guidance on shortened quarantines for asymptomatic, vaccinated, and boosted individuals, IDPH recommends that students follow the current school guidance <https://dph.illinois.gov/resource-center/news/2021/december/illinois-department-of-public-health-adopts-cdc-recommendations-.html>. In other words, no shortened quarantines for students at this time.
- Most students have enjoyed a break from the daily mask wearing. Proper mask wearing is critical in times of high transmission and colder temps which can lead to coughing, sneezing, and runny noses. Please emphasize proper mask wearing (fitted and snug over mouth and nose), hand washing-sanitizing, distancing, and keeping their hands to themselves when it comes to people and property.
- Students do not need a negative PCR test to return to school on Monday unless the student is exhibiting COVID symptoms or needs to be quarantined because of being a close contact.
- We will resume our weekly screenings of students in higher risk extra-curriculars on Monday. We will also continue to run our Test to Stay program for in school close contacts.

We are blessed to have six feet of space between students at lunch and at mask breaks. While masked, students will be distanced by at least three feet, and in many situations more. We appreciate your support in following CDC, IDPH, and DCHD guidance, and are excited to welcome everyone back for in-person learning on Monday, January 3, **2022**!

Sincerely –

Andrew S. Wise, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools