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February 12, 2021

Dear CASA Families:

Late last night, we learned of two more positive and other probable cases of COVID-19 in our CASA community. After contact tracing, we learned that these cases are all connected but are NOT related to the other two positive cases that were addressed in the letter from yesterday, February 11. We are confident that the new cases were not contracted at school. In maintaining our compliance with the updated PDE Closure Matrix, CASA will be closed for in-person learning for several additional days in an effort to prevent further spread. There is NO SCHOOL for staff and students on Monday, February 15 due to the holiday. ALL students will work remotely next week. Underclassmen will learn virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, February 16 and Wednesday, February 17. Upperclassmen will learn virtually via Zoom on Thursday, February 18 and Friday, February 19. On each of the four days next week, ALL students must submit the daily attendance form and complete their assignments. If there is inclement weather, we *may* begin Zoom sessions on a delayed schedule, but that will be announced if conditions warrant. **CASA will reopen for in-person hybrid learning on Monday, February 22.** *It is imperative that students and families continue to follow mitigation efforts outside of CASA. Following the CDC and DOH guidelines in and out of school will help CASA remain open for in-person learning.*

Below are the mitigation efforts CASA will continue to expect from students and staff members both inside and outside of school:

- **Wear a mask and maintain a physical distance of at least 6 feet at all times.**
- **Avoid close contact with those outside your immediate household and limit non-essential travel and activities.**
- **Stay home when you are sick.** Watch for symptoms of COVID-19 including cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea. Even if you suspect the illness may “just be a cold”, please keep your child home and contact Nurse Stillwater.
- **Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.** Sing the Happy Birthday song twice to help know when it has been 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizers that contain at least 60% alcohol.
- **Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and then dispose of the tissue and clean your hands immediately.** If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve, not your hands, to cover coughs and sneezes.

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipes.
- If you are contacted by the Pennsylvania Department of Health please cooperate with monitoring and follow all instructions so that other people do not become sick.

The Pennsylvania Departments of Health and Education released an updated matrix for school closures when positive cases of COVID-19 are reported. CASA will comply with the matrix below.

<u>Level of Community Transmission in the County</u>	<u>Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:</u>	<u>Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:</u>	<u>Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a Rolling 14-Day Period:</u>
	1 student or 1 staff	2-4 students/staff in same school building	5+ students/staff in same school building
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School does not need to close • Clean area(s) where case spent time • Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close school(s) for 3-5 days • Clean area(s) where cases spent time • Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close school(s) for 14 days • Clean entire school(s) • Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine
Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School does not need to close • Clean area(s) where case spent time • Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close school(s) for 3-7 days • Clean area(s) where cases spent time • Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close school(s) for 14 days • Clean entire school(s) • Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine
Substantial†	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School should consider altering schedule to significantly decrease

	number of students on site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean area(s) where case spent time • Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine 	number of students on site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close school(s) for 3-7 days * • Clean area(s) where cases spent time • Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine 	number of students on site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close school(s) for 14 days * • Clean entire school • Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine
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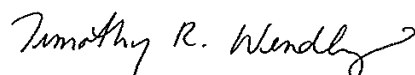
**If case investigations, contact tracing, and cleaning and disinfecting can be accomplished in a faster time frame, the length of closure time may be shortened.*

As of November 17, 2020, the Wolf administration is requiring that travelers entering Pennsylvania from other countries and states, as well as Pennsylvanians who are returning home from other countries or states, have a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours prior to entering the Commonwealth or quarantine for 10 days upon entry into Pennsylvania. If a traveler chooses to get tested upon entering the Commonwealth, or is waiting for test results, the traveler must quarantine for 10 days, or until receipt of a negative test result, whichever comes first. CASA Charter School will comply with this order and will enforce it for staff members and students. If you have plans to travel out of state, please contact the main office at 717-732-8450. More information regarding the travel order can be found at: <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Travelers.aspx>

On December 4, 2020, the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) began providing options to shorten quarantine for people who had close contact with others diagnosed with COVID-19. The 14-day quarantine is still recommended as the best and safest option by the CDC, therefore, CASA will expect that students and staff members who are close contacts of someone with COVID-19 quarantine for the complete 14 days before returning to school.

If you or any members of your household develop symptoms of COVID-19 or have symptoms that worsen, notify the Pennsylvania Department of Health immediately at 1-877-724-3258 and contact a health care provider. In addition, please contact CASA Nurse, Ann Stillwater, at astillwater@casa-arts.org. Please visit the [Pennsylvania Department of Health website](http://www.health.pa.gov) (www.health.pa.gov) for the latest and most accurate information about COVID-19.

Sincerely,



Timothy R. Wendling
CEO/Principal