

Scotland School

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Greetings SES Families,

As we approach the holidays and CT's positivity rate increases, we are continuing to strategize best practices in keeping students free from COVID. As always, we will continue temperature checks, hand washing consistently, and throughout the day checking to make sure students have their masks on properly.

We are asking parents to be vigilant in making sure students are kept home if any symptoms are present. We remind our school community that we have a student population of which many are unable to be vaccinated. We want to stay healthy and do our best to stay in school.

In addition to the above precautions we are implementing some temporary measures that better assists us in navigating exposures to COVID throughout our student population. We will begin Monday, December 13th with the following additional strategies:

1st) **Lunch** will remain in the cafe. In order to do this we will adjust the time in the lunchroom to be just under 15 minutes per lunch wave. The schedule will be adjusted to accommodate the required lunch time for staff and we will make sure that students receive a longer recess to provide for much needed "social time". We will continue to have students spread out as they are currently, in order to secure the distance without masks while in the lunchroom.

2nd) **Bathrooms**: When possible teachers will be sending students to the bathroom one-at-a-time. This can assist in monitoring their exposure in not being too close as they talk and walk together.

3rd) **Assigned seats** will remain in place in order to contact-trace as accurately as possible.

4th) **Early Bird** will remain in the cafeteria since there is more room to spread out. We will have assigned seating at tables (by siblings or grade levels) only in the morning in order to contact trace more effectively.

REMOTE PLAN: Each teacher is working to perfect their plans in making sure that we are prepared to be remote at any time. There is no immediate plans to be remote, however with the increase of COVID cases surrounding Scotland and the holidays, it may be necessary down the road. We definitely want to be prepared and ready to go forward with effective instruction for our students.

As always, we are wishing that no quarantines occur so we ask for your cooperation in keeping our school community healthy.

Thank you and as always, I appreciate your commitment to SES.
Please stay healthy, happy and safe. Have a wonderful weekend!
Ann Knowles, Principal