Good Afternoon, Colonial Families:

Over the past few days, we have received questions regarding our District’s COVID-19 protocols and procedures. Most of these inquiries concern the Face Covering Order issued by the Acting Secretary of the PA Department of Health. We continue to receive new information and updates from the PA Departments of Health and Education. We will continue to keep our community updated as we receive new information and how it impacts our students’ education. Please check the District’s website regularly for any and all updates throughout the year. With that being said, the following is intended to provide you with some insight on the most recent information regarding protocols & procedures during the 2021-2022 School Year:

- Administration monitors our community / school COVID cases on a daily and weekly basis.
- We also track the number of positive cases in each school building and the number of any close contacts identified with each positive case. These numbers can add up quickly and can thus have an impact on in-person education and extracurricular activities / sports.
- We report all positive cases and close contacts within a school building to the PA DOH as required.
- By Order of the Acting Secretary of the PA Department of Health, beginning September 7, 2021, all employees, staff, students, and visitors will be required to wear a mask or face shield when indoors. This applies whether or not a person is fully vaccinated. Students will not need to wear a mask when outdoors during recess, gym class or when participating in sports.
- Under Section 3B of the Face Covering Requirement, individuals wanting an exception must submit the required forms and medical documentation (found on the District’s website) to the District in order to be considered for exception to the PA DOH Masking Order.
- Students are excluded from contact tracing in a K-12 setting if the infected student and the exposed students that were within 6 feet were all properly wearing a mask. In a case such as this, the exposed students that were properly wearing a mask would not have to quarantine unless they started showing symptoms of COVID-19.
- Our district will continue all mitigation efforts as we did last year to reduce the risk of transmitting or getting COVID-19. Please refer to our ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan which is located on our district website for further guidance or information. You may also contact me with any questions at the above listed phone number or through my email at cpegg@agasd.org.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Pegg, Superintendent