

## **Mayfield City Schools**

EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.

October 27, 2020

Dear Mayfield Families and Staff:

As you may be aware, there is a lot of speculation and conversation about Cuyahoga County soon changing its COVID-19 color zone from a Level 3 Red Zone to a Level 4 Purple Zone.

Public health officials, including the Cuyahoga County Board of Health tell us that a majority of the cases occurring in school districts, including ours, are being transmitted outside of schools in social and community settings and not in the classroom.

The current health and safety protocols we have in place across the district are protecting and preventing the spread of COVID-19 at our buildings to the best of our knowledge.

It's important to note, since Cuyahoga County moved from an Orange Level 2 Zone to a Red Level 3 Zone on October 16th, Mayfield City Schools has reported 4 positive student cases and 0 positive staff cases. From October 16th until today, we have quarantined 29 students and 10 staff.

At this time, should the county color move from red to purple, Mayfield City Schools will continue to provide in-person and remote learning options for our students until conditions become unmanageable or unsafe.

Our schools can only remain open with an in-person option so long as cases among students and staff remain manageable. As a community, we must remain vigilant. Our actions matter. Parties and large gatherings are impacting the spread of the virus. If our schools are to remain open, we must practice responsible prevention - wear masks, wash your hands, practice social distancing, and stay home if you are feeling sick. Make sure to do the daily health assessment every day before coming to school.

As I have stated throughout our Return to Learn communications, there is no one resolute plan to revert to full remote learning. The color-coding system is but one indicator that I consider in making the decision to remain in school with a remote option or, if conditions warrant, to close our schools.

I continue to take into account the following, when making the decision to continue to offer in-person and remote learning options, at this time:

• As reported on the Mayfield City Schools COVID-19 dashboard, since we returned to in-person learning on September 21, we have had 11 positive cases total.

- To the best of our knowledge, none of our positive cases have been traced back to originating in school.
- Our safety protocols and practices are proving effective as evidenced by the fact that none of our positive cases have originated in school, to the best of our knowledge. We continue to work with the County Board of Health on all cases and use their guidance on contact-tracing methods and quarantining decisions.
- Recently, health experts are acknowledging that schools are not the super spreader once thought.
- There is a growing body of evidence suggesting the importance of being in school as it relates to social and emotional well-being.
- The Governor has not closed schools as he did in March. For now, that decision resides with local school boards and superintendents.
- We will continue to closely monitor the local, county and state pandemic trend data. A decision to shift back into full remote is always an option.

Remember, if you are not comfortable sending your child to school, we offer well developed, organized, technology-based remote learning options and academic plans for all K-12 students that will allow your child to continue to advance through the school year. If you would like to move your child from in-person to remote online learning, please contact your principal.

I want to compliment our students and staff for their amazing work. Visiting the buildings and seeing the effort staff and students are putting into teaching and learning while maintaining protocols, only reinforces my decision to stick with our current model.

I also think it important to share the positive anecdotes we receive from many of you. These anecdotes lift the spirits of our staff and inspire them to continue to adapt and adjust. Here are a few emails from parents that show our commitment to kids and how we remain unified for our students and community.

*"I'm so thankful for all the time and energy you and the staff have spent to make remote learning a success. The teachers have all been quick to respond to any questions and are VERY helpful!!! The entire Lander staff has really made the best out of an undesirable situation." ~ Tina F.* 

"Our boys have been doing great with remote learning. MHS and MMS are on top of everything." ~ Brian W.

"I wanted to reach out and let you know how impressed I am with the remote learning being executed by the teachers at Center. The teaching is engaging and the work is thoughtful. At the same time, I feel they are putting in effort to build community and relationships among themselves and the students." ~ Sarah D.

*"I just wanted to share how wonderful remote learning has been going! My son is in Mrs. Klein's 1st grade class and let me tell you, she runs that like a "regular " classroom. My husband and* 

even my mother are so surprised lol! She is so consistent and engaging with the kids, which I honestly didn't think was possible. Please know she has my full confidence and trust. My son looks forward to seeing her every day!" ~ Dana F.

Stay well, Mayfield. We will continue to move forward, together.

Sincerely,

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Keith Kelly, Superintendent