

Happy Friday CMS Families,

We'll lead things off with a quick COVID update. This week we saw a slight decline in both student absences and positive cases. Overall, we recorded 15 total student and staff cases. Student absences averaged in the 70s this week. We hope this trend continues moving forward.

In accordance with new CDPH guidance issued January 12th, CMS is moving to a "general exposure" COVID testing program that is far more comprehensive in scope. Beginning Monday, all students may be tested for COVID through a grade level rotation. Below is a description of the new testing program. While the program requires/advises higher levels of testing, it also helps reduce the number of days students remain out of school and extra-curricular activities for exposure related incidents.

In order to participate in this testing program for the remainder of the school year parents must provide consent for testing through the end of the school year. If you have registered, but have not provided consent for testing through the end of the year we will have to contact you each time your child is scheduled to test due to exposure on campus. In an effort to expedite this process we are offering the opportunity to provide consent through the end of the year by signing the consent form sent out by the district. The link is not included here due to some issues we had with the pasted link earlier this week. Please see the district's communication for the consent form.

Below is an outline of our Covid Tracking and Testing Protocols which will be fully in place beginning next week.

Carmel Middle School COVID Tracking and Testing Protocols Effective 1/24/22

Based on the changes to the Contact Tracing and Testing guidance issued on 1/12/22 CMS will use the guidelines for tracking and testing implementation.

Beginning Monday, 1.24.22 CMS will shift from targeted Contact Tracing to a wider testing approach in line with CDPH guidance. Testing for students is optional but is strongly recommended.

Testing will be conducted by grade level in students PE classes

Monday and Tuesday - 8th Grade Students

Wednesday and Thursday - 7th Grade Students

Monday through Thursday - 6th Grade Students (by alphabet)

Friday - Open testing day/makeup testing day

When a positive case is identified in a classroom all parents and students will receive notification via ParentSquare embedded with the following information

Date of last contact

Dates/Times of Testing Window for those interested in testing

Sign Up Link for testing

Students who have been out sick will be asked to test with the school or provide a negative test on the date of return.

Students will be issued a pass clearing them to return to school.

Looking ahead 2022-2023 School Year

We know it is only January but believe it or not we are working on our next year's master schedule for the incoming 6th graders and our current 6th & 7th graders. We will be pre-enrolling our 8th graders in the Carmel High School database soon, and scheduling their one-on-one counseling meetings which will take place April 4th-8th.

Very important: If your child will not be attending Carmel Middle School next year or matriculating to Carmel High School as a freshman, please let our registrar Elaine Eldridge, eeldridge@carmelunified.org know ASAP. Thank you!

The CMS PTO Needs You!

Are you looking for ways to be more involved in your child's school experience? Do you want to meet other amazing, like-minded parents? Hoping to get the inside scoop on what's happening on campus? Look no further than the PTO board! There are several board positions opening up for the 2022/23 school year:

- President
- Vice President (note: there is already interest in this position)
- Secretary (note: there is already interest in this position)
- Treasurer
- Director of Communications

Previous experience isn't necessary, but for the Treasurer position knowledge of Quickbooks is needed. For the Director of Communications position, knowledge of social media account management and programs such as MailChimp and SignUp Genius is extremely helpful.

Board members will be elected in April. If you are interested in serving and would like more information on any of the open positions, please contact Lovina Worick at lovinaworick@yahoo.com. We have other committee positions open as well if you'd like more information!

CMS Basketball - This Week's Important Dates

Monday - January 24th

Team photos will be taken on the west side of the gym for the following:

3:00 pm 6th grade girls

3:05 pm 7th grade girls

3:10 pm 8th grade girls

Tuesday - January 25th

6th, 7th and 8th grade girls basketball vs San Benancio @ CMS 4:00, 5:00 and 6:00 pm

6th, 7th and 8th grade boys basketball vs San Benancio @ San Benancio 4:00, 5:00 and 6:00

Wednesday - January 26th

Team photos will be taken on the west side of the gym for the following:

3:00 pm 7th grade boys

3:05 pm 8th grade boys

3:30 6th grade boys

Thursday - January 27th

6th, 7th and 8th grade boys basketball vs Pacific Grove @ Pacific Grove @ 4:00, 5:00 and 6:00

6th, 7th and 8th grade girls basketball vs Pacific Grove @ CMS 4:00, 5:00 and 6:00

CMS Events and Important Calendar Dates

JANUARY

12 - 21 Nepal Fundraiser

17. Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School

28. Winter Dance 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. (postponed)

FEBRUARY

4. Minimum Day - Staff Development

9. Sportsnet closes for Spring Sports

14 - 18. Kindness Week

18. 2nd Trimester Ends / 6th Grade Cycle Change

21 - 25. February Break

28. 3rd Trimester Begins

MARCH

1. CUSD District Choral Festival, Sunset Center, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

30. CUSD District Band Festival, Sunset Center 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

APRIL

1. Minimum Day - Staff Development

5. CUSD District String Festival , Sunset Center 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

8. 6th Grade Cycle Change

11 - 15. Spring Break

MAY

2 - 6. CMS Staff Appreciation Week

6. Minimum Day - Staff Development

10. CMS Spring Concert

11. 8th Grade Panoramic Picture

20. Renaissance Faire 12:00 p.m.

23 - 27. Spirit Week

30. Memorial day - No School

JUNE

2. 8th Grade Promotion 5:00 p.m.
3. Last Day of School / 3rd Trimester Ends