

CMS Weekly Communication 1.7.22

Good Afternoon CMS Families and Happy Friday!

CMS Covid Update

I'll jump right into the topic I've received the most inquiries about this week in an attempt to be as informative as possible. COVID has definitely hit our school and community at an unprecedented rate this week. Over the course of the week we averaged 60+ absences each day, culminating with a weekly high of 86 absences today. Many of these were COVID related absences and represent reasons including COVID exposure (home, community, school, family, extended family), COVID like symptoms (there is also a stomach bug hitting families right now), and COVID positive cases. As many of you have noted the COVID dashboard does not reflect total cases on a school site or our district. The dashboard only reports on cases that are discovered at school and is therefore a bit misleading when considering actual numbers. Our numbers as of this communication include 26 confirmed positive cases among staff and students.

I hope that you took the time to read the communication from our Superintendent, Dr. Ted Knight, that came out a couple days ago. In that communication, Dr. Knight made it clear that we will continue to do everything in our power to remain open during this surge. Plans are in place to utilize personnel in a manner that will allow classes to continue running despite the surge in cases we are currently facing. In addition, we have a few creative solutions that will allow us to keep school open even if personnel shortages force us to close a handful of classrooms.

For the time being, you can help us by once again limiting your social circles, continuing in home testing, ensuring that your student remains at home even if they have a few mild symptoms, honestly reporting health conditions to our staff, and taking extra precautions to help limit possible spread.

We will continue to keep you updated and informed as we work through these challenges together.

Refresher on COVID Protocols

We'd like to take a moment to remind everyone that we do send out a notification anytime your child is in a classroom with a student who tests positive. However, being in a room with a positive student does not mean your child is a close contact. Our contact tracing team will be in touch with you personally if your child is in need of additional screening due to their designation as a close contact to a positive individual.

CUSD has adjusted our process to align with CDPH guidance in terms of isolation. If a student has a positive COVID diagnosis, the term of isolation is now 5 days with the ability to return to school on day 6 provided they no longer have symptoms and clear with us by having a negative Rapid Antigen test. This change does not apply to those students who are deemed close contacts and require a quarantine period to rule out infection. Students with this designation would remain out of school for 10 days but could test on day 6 of quarantine to potentially come back earlier. We understand that this can be confusing and frustrating so please do not hesitate to contact us with questions. Our tracing team continues to stay on top of the changing rules and policies we are compelled to follow.

Cancelation/Postponement of CMS Activities

Due to the current situation a number of activities have been postponed. Many of these will be rescheduled if/when we are able to engage in a safe manner. The list below are activities that have been cancelled/postponed for the immediate future.

- CCS Honors Chorus/Band
- CMS Winter Dance
- 8th Grade VAPA Field Trip to CHS
- Basketball Games vs Buena Vista (Cancelled earlier this week on 1.5.22)

We'll keep you posted on the rescheduling of these activities as the situation allows.

Update on Spring Sports

SportsNet will soon be open for tryouts for Spring Sports. This year our Spring Sports offerings will include Track and Field, Tennis, and potentially Wrestling. **Due to complications involving transportation, the securing/lack of a home course, and the limited number of students who traditionally participate in golf, we will no longer be offering golf at CMS.** We will be delaying our decision regarding wrestling until we have a clear picture of the impact of the current surge. Should case numbers decline to a point where we feel that wrestling can be offered in a safe manner we will open the sport for participation.

If your child signed up for golf on SportsNet, we encourage you to log back in and select another sport. Track and Field and Wrestling are no-cut sports and we try to keep as many students on our tennis team/s as possible.

That's all we have for this week.

Stay safe!

CMS Events and Important Calendar Dates

JANUARY

10. Sportsnet opens for Spring Sports
- 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