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Regis High School Regis Middle School Immaculate Conception Elementary St. James Elementary St. Mary's Elementary Genesis & Regis Child Development

September 10, 2021

Dear Regis Catholic Schools Families and Staff,

We are grateful to have another school year underway and thank you for your support as we navigate a time when the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have an impact on everything we do.

At this time, mask wearing is a parental decision and remains optional for students and staff at our schools. We strongly encourage those individuals who choose not to be vaccinated or cannot be vaccinated to wear a mask. All are welcome and invited to wear a mask at any time.

Our Regis Catholic Schools leadership team does, however, understand and recognize that this policy may have to temporarily change at some point based on the spread of and exposure to COVID-19 within our schools. We continue to meet regularly to discuss our COVID-19 policies and strategies and recently created parameters to guide our masking decisions as we move forward.

We monitor the COVID-19 positive cases and quarantines at our schools daily. Masking will remain optional unless a total of 20% of the school population at any given school building are in quarantine or have confirmed positive COVID-19 cases at one time. If and when that 20% threshold is reached, we will implement required masking indoors only at that school building for two (2) consecutive weeks. (When accounting for the weekend, ten (10) total school days.) The impacted school building will return to optional masking after that two (2) week period if the percentage has fallen below 20%.

(For this purpose, our Regis Middle School and Regis High School population numbers will be added together, with the Regis campus combined as one school.)

If masking becomes required, it will be done on an individual building basis. (For example, St. Mary's Elementary School may need to implement a temporary period of mandatory masking due to current numbers while St. James Elementary School will not.) **If masking becomes required at your child's school, it will be communicated directly by your school office.** You will also be able to check our 2021-22 School Year Information (COVID-19) webpage (www.RegisCatholicSchools.com/coronavirus-information/) at any time to see which schools, if any, are requiring masks and for how long they will do so.

Our ultimate goal is to keep children at school and learning in-person as much as possible. We do not want to find ourselves in a situation that would require virtual learning for a majority of our students.

We wish to emphasize that at this point, we are not currently in a situation in any of our school buildings that would require tighter restrictions and mandatory masking. However, we feel it is important to communicate this plan with you now so you are well prepared in the event we need to make a temporary change and require masking for a short period of time at your child's school.

It is our hope and intent to keep our restrictions as minimal as possible throughout the school year, but we must be prepared. We are thankful that, as of now, we don't need to embrace more stringent measures. Please pray this continues to be our COVID-19 reality. At the same time, let us also be sober in our thoughts, realizing new variants are present in our community and may require us to embrace temporary periods of stricter restrictions.

Please continue to pray for all of us at Regis Catholic Schools as we continue moving forward in a Christ-centered environment focused on education.

Sincerely,



Carisa Smiskey
Interim President



Fr. James Kurzynski
Dean, Eau Claire Deanery

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Regis Catholic Schools is dedicated to educating students of all faiths in a Catholic, Christ-centered environment. We are united by Our Core Values of *Living Faith, Accepting Responsibility, Promoting Teamwork, Achieving Excellence, and Inspiring Leadership.*