November 19, 2020

Hello Liberty Parents / Guardians,

We know people are concerned about the uptick of positive COVID cases in our county. However, we have been doing a great job here at school, with your help, in keeping the situation under control. Presently we have 3 active cases, with a total of 9 positive COVID cases since the beginning of the school year. However, note this is out of 640 students and about 100 staff. This is a very small percentage of the school population. Kudos to everyone for making this happen and keep up the good work!

We have noticed that the positive COVID cases experienced so far have been community acquired, not from within the school. Literally, it takes all of us to keep our school safe. We have staff running around doing all kinds of things besides their regular job covering classes and lunchroom duties, taking temperatures, helping with dismissal, delivering lunches to elementary classes, wiping off tables/ lockers/door handles, etc., taking out trash during lunch, and anything else that is needed. Our nurse and principals have spent many hours contact tracing and communicating with those who need to quarantine. Thank you, Mrs. Lucas, for all this extra time outside of school managing all the data she has to report daily to the health department.

Many staff have filled in to cover classrooms at an exhausting rate when we run out of subs. All of this is done to keep offering in-person instruction, so please do what you can in the next few weeks during the holidays to stay away from anyone exhibiting COVID symptoms or who may have been exposed to COVID. We appreciate you letting us know about any pending or confirmed results of a COVID test by emailing <u>covid@libertyschool.net</u>. The more immediate information that we have, the better we can prepare and deal with any potential issues.

As far as posting a count of COVID cases, we have not been doing this so our focus was not negatively impacted by COVID, but rather on helping support staff and students academically and practicing safe and healthy protocols. However, we can put that information on our website and update it periodically, so you are informed. Understand that we cannot legally give out much information about individuals who have COVID, but will contact you if there has been close contact with your child.

Please enjoy your holiday season and continue to social distance and wear a face mask, as these efforts seem to be paying off. We are very thankful to still be in-person! Remember, the positive cases we have experienced were not due to exposure at school. Let's work together to keep this trend going.

Happy Thanksgiving!