Parents and Guardians,

On Friday, February 25, the CDC provided new guidance on masking for the public. The CDC has developed a new tool to assist communities to determine their prevention levels based on their data. You can find the tool at the following link: COVID-19 by County | CDC.

The District will be implementing an optional masking policy as per the current Health and Safety Plan. The plan directs us to transition to an optional masking protocol when the county’s transmission rate is below substantial. Currently Allegheny County transmission rate is low.

Also, the CDC is exercising its enforcement discretion to not require that people wear masks on buses or vans operated by public or private school systems, including early care and education/child care programs. CDC is making this change to align with updated guidance that no longer recommends universal indoor mask wearing in K-12 schools and early education settings in areas with a low or medium COVID-19 Community Level.

The Health and Safety Plan will be reviewed and updated to reflect the new color system the CDC has put into place. The CDC has suggested that masking can be reinstated if community levels move into the red.

People may choose to mask at any time.

Thank you,

Jeffrey Soles