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October 6, 2021

Dear HCS Education Community:

## Weekly COVID Update:

Since my last update on September 29, 2021, the data shows:

**Livingston County Average Percentage of Positive Results for all Tested:** 13% (10% last week) **Livingston County Average Number of Positive Cases Per Day**: 102.1 (79.8 last week) **Livingston County Average Number of Positive Cases Per Week**: 715 (559 last week) **Elementary Students in Quarantine Since Last Week**: CE = 20, LE = 50, RE = 27, VE = 88 **Grade 5-8 Students in Quarantine Since Last Week**: FIS = 134 and MS = 33 **High School / Alternative Education Students in Quarantine Since Last Week**: HS =127

Currently, the county is seeing about 715 cases per week. The State of Michigan is showing a 10% positivity rate, 3,983 daily cases, and roughly 27,882 positive COVID cases per week. In the past week, I have been notified of positive or probable COVID cases at Creekside Elementary (1), Round Elementary (2), Village Elementary (3), Farms Intermediate (8), Hartland Middle School (7) and Hartland High School (18). Please understand that a positive case does not necessarily mean a quarantine took place if the case was due to outside exposure, and the student was not in school.

**Note:** Data taken from <u>https://www.mistartmap.info/</u> and <u>https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view</u>

The following link has a document that outlines the current LCHD Quarantine Process: <u>https://www.livgov.com/health/ph/Documents/Livingston-County-School-Attendance-Options.pdf</u> This is an easy to read document that may help you better understand your options if contacted that your child has been placed in quarantine.

## High School:

Congratulations to the following students for being recognized by the National Merit Scholarship team as outstanding academic achievers:

Cody Chapman and Mia Delabarre have been recognized as 2021 National Merit Commended Scholars. Their scores placed them among the top 50,000 students who entered the National Merit Program by taking the 2020 PSAT/National Merit Qualifying Test. This year, 34,000 students went on to be named as Commended Scholars and are recognized as students who have shown exceptional academic promise.

Jackson Donaldson and Jose' Ruiz have been named as Semifinalists. These two students have been invited to continue to compete in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. National Merit Scholarship Competition results are announced at Senior Honors Night in the spring.

## New Distance Guidance for Contact Tracing:

The Livingston County Health Department has agreed to allow the schools to use a three-foot radius instead of six-foot radius contact tracing protocol. This is a compromise by the LCHD as we work to keep more students in school. This protocol will be re-evaluated at the end of October. The fact is that in-school transmissions made up 1% of all positive COVID cases in 2020-21 and so far, about 2% this school year. What we are seeing is that 98% of all our 164 positive cases this year are attributed to community spread not in-school transmission. If in-school transmissions increase, we may have no choice but to move back to the six-foot protocol. Once again, if a child is sick, a family member is sick, or any testing is going on in the home, help everyone by keeping the children home until testing results are negative for the entire family and the student is 24 hours symptom free. I cannot stress this enough as we move into the cooler months where more people are gathering indoors.

## **National Principals Month:**

I want to thank our building principals for the fantastic job they do every day. If you get a chance, please let your child's principal know how much you appreciate them.

Kate Gregory = Hartland High School Nicole Conley = LEGACY and Hartland Virtual Academy Lawrence Pumford = Hartland Middle School at Ore Creek Mikki Cheney = Farms Intermediate Stephanie Way = Creekside Elementary Tony Howerton = Lakes Elementary Dotty Selix = Round Elementary Angelina Kreger = Village Elemenatary

Have a wonderful week.

Respectfully,

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