



November 8, 2021

Dear Caledonia Community Schools Community,

Last week, the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) granted Emergency Use Authorization of the COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5 - 11 years old. You can read more information [here](#) from the FDA.

Due to the recent vaccine authorization for ages 5-11 years old, the Kent County Health Department (KCHD) recently [announced](#) that the face covering [Public Health Order](#) for grades PreK-6 will expire on January 2, 2022. While the mask requirement will be lifted, the quarantine and outbreak [Public Health Order of August 6, 2021](#), is still in effect.

Since all K-12 students are now eligible to obtain the COVID vaccine, effective January 3, 2022, CCS students in grades PreK-6 will no longer be required to wear a mask. We support and encourage the CDC's recommendation that all individuals wear masks while indoors. However, parents/legal guardians will have the choice when making the decision for their student(s) regarding facial coverings, COVID-19 testing, and vaccinations in the absence of any public health orders or MHSAA rules for student athletes.

We are waiting for additional details regarding contact tracing, recommended quarantines and required quarantines. Once we have this information, we will send another communication sharing the requirements for schools.

We will continue to work with public health officials and make the necessary adjustments to our COVID safety protocols based on CDC, Michigan Department of Health and Humans Services (MDHHS), and local health department guidance or requirements to keep our students, staff, and families safe. We need to continue to be flexible and adapt to conditions as they evolve.

Thank you for your continued patience and support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dedrick Martin
Superintendent
Caledonia Community Schools