



**Dear Bellefonte Area School District Parents, Families, Staff and Community:**

**WE DID IT (AGAIN)!!!!!! Thank you, thank you, thank you for all of your support, understanding and help throughout this very challenging school year! We could not have done it without you!**

#### **Covid Case Counts**

Since last Friday (6/3), we have received notifications of just 2 new covid cases in the district - 2 Middle School Students tested positive for covid. Today is the last day we are required to report new cases to the PDE/PA DoH. As of right now, we will not be required to report new case notifications to PDE/PA DoH this summer or beyond.

#### **Centre County CDC Covid Designations**

As reported and described in an email a few weeks ago, the CDC uses 2 different designations for covid (please see that email for an explanation of each type of designation). Today, Centre County is designated as having a high covid transmission rate using the previous metrics, and according to yesterday's CDC report of community level for the prior week, Centre County is designated as now having a "low" community level rate.

#### **A Look Back**

I was going to do a whole analysis of all that we did to get through this year and a summary of the total number of covid cases and quarantines, but that would make this letter way too long. In short, we faced many challenges with Covid this year, particularly for the first half of the year. There were many implications and rules for schools that were put in place by the PA Department of Education and the PA Department of Health. Navigating the ever-changing rules while trying to keep our students and staff safe was not easy. But we did it again this year with your support and understanding!

Did we make some mistakes and take some missteps along the way this year? Sure. We are sorry that those things happened. But, please know that we did the best we could for our students. We truly tried to put **all** of our students first. On a personal and side note, I can say that I lost a lot of sleep and NO decision was ever taken lightly. Thank you so much again for your understanding, patience and support.

## **This Summer**

All district and school offices will be closed to the public on Fridays this summer from June 17 - August 12, 2022. We are hoping that our staff can get a much-deserved vacation this summer, so we won't always have coverage on Fridays. The offices will be open Monday - Thursday mainly from 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM unless otherwise posted. You can call the school office or email the building principal this summer if you have any questions or need more information, too.

## **A Look Ahead to the 2022 - 2023 School Year**

Through the last two years, we have used the words "unprecedented times" and "unchartered waters." I am hopeful that we are heading back to more "precedented times" and "chartered waters." In other words, it is my sincere hope that the 22-23 school year will look more "normal," more similar to the pre-pandemic years. We have been moving in that direction over the past few months. Please look for emails from me or postings on our website this summer for any updates.

The first day of school for students for the 22-23 school year will be August 30, 2022.

Again, I just want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your support, your patience and understanding and all you have done for our students over this past year. Bellefonte is truly an amazing and awesome school district and community because of you! I feel so very blessed to be part of this school district and community. I hope you and your family stay safe, healthy and well this summer! ENJOY!

Sincerely,

Tammie Burnaford  
Superintendent  
Bellefonte Area School District