March 1, 2021

Community:

This afternoon, Governor Wolf announced updated guidance on travel restrictions in Pennsylvania and limits on indoor and outdoor gatherings as we move forward in the Spring season. Below is a summary of the guidance:

* **Revised maximum occupancy limits for indoor events to allow for 15% of maximum occupancy, regardless of venue size.** Core public health measures such as face covering (mask-wearing), social distancing, and hand hygiene must still be enforced. The 15% of maximum occupancy is permitted only if attendees and workers are able to comply with the 6-foot physical distancing requirement.
* **Revised maximum occupancy limits for outdoor events to allow for 20% of maximum occupancy, regardless of venue size.** Core public health measures such as face covering (mask-wearing), social distancing, and hand hygiene must still be enforced. The 20% of maximum occupancy is permitted only if attendees and workers are able to comply with the 6-foot physical distancing requirement.
* **Eliminate out-of-state travel restrictions.** In November, the Department of Health provided an updated travel order requiring anyone over the age of 11 who visits from another state to provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test or place themselves in a travel quarantine for 14 days upon entering Pennsylvania. Today, this order was rescinded. The current downward trend of cases nationwide, implementation of testing requirements and universal face covering on public transportation and in transportation hubs are reducing the risk that interstate travel is a vector of disease transmission.

Effective immediately, should you travel to another state, you no longer have to quarantine or have a “negative COVID-19 test result” prior to your children returning to school. For those students/staff who are currently in a travel quarantine, we are asking that you complete the quarantine as you traveled prior to the travel quarantine being lifted. Finally, we will be increasing the maximum capacity size at the start of our Spring sports season for spectators. A link to the Governor’s announce can be found here: [Updated Travel Guidance and Spectator Capacity](https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/gov-wolf-revises-mitigation-order-on-gatherings-and-lifts-out-of-state-travel-restrictions/)

It is great to see some positive news on the COVID-19 front. My hope is we can continue “opening up” as a school, community, and country to get us back to whatever our “normal” will look like. As always, thanks for your continued cooperation and support of our school district. We will continue to keep you informed as things change with the procedures and guidelines from the Governor’s Office, Pennsylvania Department of Education, or Pennsylvania Department of Health as we move forward with the Spring. Stay safe!

Sincerely,

Dr. Eric Briggs

Eric Briggs, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

Canton Area School District