January 7, 2022

Dear MCES Families.

We have been grateful to have a fairly seamless school year to date, and thank you for your continued support this year. While we feel confident in our COVID protocols to mitigate spread in our schools, we recognize that COVID numbers continue to surge, and we recognize the possibility that these could interrupt in person instruction and the school day experience. Our student attendance has remained consistent at 93-94%. Despite this, we have seen an increase in the number of sick faculty and staff and have had days where we were lacking subs this week.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation in reporting positive results and staying home while sick. We also ask that you strongly consider sending your children to school wearing a mask. This will help reduce the spread of COVID and prevent quarantines.

We recognize that this surge of COVID cases is not unique to our school or our area, and want to be proactive in our planning should a situation arise where the number of cases, specifically with staff, may cause disruption. As you know, we are required by the Archdiocese of Detroit Office of Catholic Schools to follow isolation and quarantine guidelines issued by the Monroe County Health Department (MCHD). If any of our faculty or staff test positive for COVID, like students, they are required by MCHD to isolate for 10 days before returning to school. If cases continue to rise, we also anticipate the possibility of widespread absences of employees having to support children in quarantine or at home due to daycare facilities and schools being inaccessible. These scenarios all threaten our day to day operations.

If faculty and staff absences reach a critical threshold, they have the potential to impact the following:

- In-Person Instruction. If teacher absences reach a critical number, we would be forced to transition temporarily to a remote learning instruction model. If this were to occur, we would notify you immediately. The day following the announcement would be a planning day for teachers to transition schedules, instruction, and assignments for remote learning. We would communicate the remote instruction schedule with students and parents should the need for it arise. In person instruction would resume as soon as teacher absence numbers become manageable once again. We do not want to transition to remote learning, however, it is a real possibility if we are unable to fully staff our campuses.
- Increased Need for Substitute Teachers. We would like to add to our pool of
 substitute teachers to help limit the possibility of suspending in-person schooling in the
 event of extensive COVID absences. If you have the time, 90+ college credits (teaching
 certificate not required), and any interest in serving as a substitute, please click here to

express your interest. The job description can be found <u>here</u>. We will contact you for an interview.

We hope that with God's will and grace, this current surge will be temporary. Thank you for your patience and support through this challenging stretch–together in Christ, we will persevere!

God Bless,

Kyle Kubik MCES Executive Principal