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July 29, 2021

Good Evening Upper Darby Royals!

I wanted to provide you with an update on our reopening of schools health and safety plan. On July 27, 2021, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended, "...universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to schools, regardless of vaccination status." Here is a link to the July CDC updated guidance for your review [July 27 CDC Guidance](#). As a result of this recent guidance, the Upper Darby School District will begin the 2021-2022 school by **requiring masking of students who are 11 years of age and younger**, and we are strongly recommending masking for all eligible unvaccinated students and staff. We are encouraging families to work with us on masking students who are not yet vaccinated as a mitigation strategy to keep our schools open for in-person instruction. As a District, we will continue to monitor the information that is provided to us by the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PaDOH) because we are no longer under the guidance of the Chester County Health Department (CCHD). With the ever-changing guidance, we may have to mandate certain mitigation strategies such as masking from time to time based on community transmission. Our primary goal, however, is to keep our schools open for in-person instruction.

The Upper Darby School District will host a vaccination clinic for students 12 and older on August 12, 2021 at Upper Darby High School from 9a.m. to 1p.m. for a first dose and a second dose on September 2, 2021 from 1p.m. to 5p.m. Ms. Simone, Dr. Alloway, and Dr. Ursone will be sending you a link to register for the vaccination clinic. Once again, we strongly encourage our students ages 12 and older to get vaccinated. If you plan on participating in middle school or high school athletics, choir, band, orchestra, etc., please take this opportunity to get vaccinated if you have not already done so.

We will continue to provide you with updated information when it becomes available. You will be receiving more back to school information from my office and your school principal(s) soon.

Please continue to enjoy your summer!