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## GENESEE COUNTY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

February 15, 2022

Dear GCCS Parents,

I write you today with notable changes to our COVID protocols for most of our schools. In reviewing the most recent data from Genesee County Health Department (GCHD) as well as the data from our own schools, a clear downward trend has occurred. Please join me in praying for the continued good health of all those in our school communities.

Due to the recent data review, as an administrative team, we announce the following:

- 1. <u>Effective Tuesday, February 22, 2022</u>, our schools, with the exception of St. John Vianney Catholic School, will move to **strongly recommend wearing masks**. St. John Vianney has specific medical needs **requiring masks** through the end of the school year.
- 2. Note: MASKS continue to be *required* at school and athletic events through February 21, 2022.
- 3. As has been the practice all year, we will continue to monitor both the GCHD findings as well as our school data. If there becomes a need to **reverse back to wearing masks**, we will do so and communicate this to you.
- 4. Our goal has been and will continue to be to keep our schools open for face to face learning! YOU can help your school community by keeping your child home if they are not feeling well. Encourage your child to wash their hands frequently as well as cover their mouths when sneezing or coughing.
- 5. We know some children will continue to wear a mask. Remind your child to accept others and their decisions by being kind.
- 6. We do have students, staff, and family members who are fighting difficult diseases like asthma or cancer. Such cases require the continued wearing of the mask in groups, for the sake of the person with the illness. These are occasions where we encourage your child to wear a mask. This is an opportunity for all to show love and kindness to those who may be medically fragile. Have your child have a mask available at school.
- 7. GCHD quarantine protocols remain in place and have not changed. Masks are required for bus transportation. Preschool students require masks. Extended Care, when preschool students are present, will require masks.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of our entire school staff members who have endured a challenging year. Our principals, in particular, have spent an inordinate amount of time working on pandemic-related tasks in addition to their other responsibilities. They have worked tirelessly to keep the doors open. I am forever grateful for the work they do and the selfless people they are.

May God continue to bless your family and our GCCS family.

Respectfully,

Executive Director











