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January 12, 2022

Dear SMSD Families:

As you know, guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) is constantly in flux. The most recent update released on January 4th, 2022, include significant changes to the rules regarding isolation and quarantine.

Effective immediately, isolation and quarantine periods are now 5 days instead of 10 days. Anyone who is eligible for a booster shot but hasn't received one is no longer considered fully vaccinated for quarantining purposes and needs to quarantine if the person has been in close contact with someone who is COVID positive. This includes children 12 and over. Eligibility for a booster shot means that you are at least two months out from receiving the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, five months out from receiving the Pfizer vaccine, or six months out from receiving the Moderna vaccine.

PLEASE NOTE: Students who are not able to tolerate a mask would adhere to a 10 day isolation/quarantine as they might have in the past – the shortened 5 days does not apply.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's department principal (Joy Higgins or Aimee Bell), or the PPS Director Richard Szafrank.

Sincerely,

Timothy M. Kelly
Superintendent