



THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

November 5, 2021

Dear Catholic School Families,

Thank you for all of your support and perseverance with our Covid guidelines during the first part of this school year. Your continued patience and your cooperation in ensuring that our students are able to remain safely in class 5-days a week is greatly appreciated.

Recently, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) announced a significant change to the quarantine procedure called “Mask to Stay.” The details are included on the attached announcement from ODH. The Diocese of Columbus will be adopting these new guidelines effective immediately. As explained by ODH, these rules will apply only to school activity exposures. Preschool, Pre-K, and before and after school programs are not covered by the “Mask to Stay.” Once ODH and our licensing agencies have issued guidance for these programs, you will be notified by your child’s school.

Additionally, because the Covid numbers have fallen substantially in Franklin County, the high school mask requirement will be eased effective November 8. While we continue to encourage the wearing of masks, they will now be optional at Diocesan high schools. Please keep in mind that schools may need to require masks in the future for brief periods of time in the event of an outbreak or high community transmission.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Adam J. Dufault, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Diocese of Columbus