

From: [Gordon, Eric](#)
Subject: MESSAGE FROM THE CEO - COVID 19 Testing
Date: Monday, October 4, 2021 8:40:27 AM
Importance: High

Good morning CMSD Educators,

Like the state, nation, and entire world, CMSD continues to experience the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We have and will continue to implement a large number of safety measures to protect students, staff, and guests of our schools, offices, and departments. Those include:

- Every school is expected to have a school safety team co-chaired by the principal, custodian, and teacher's union chair
- Mask requirement for all students and adults in any district school, office, or facility regardless of vaccination status
- Temperature check upon entry to every district school
- Care clinics staffed with a full time health professional at each school
- Providing sanitation gel, sanitation wipes, and other PPE in every classroom and office
- Maintaining 3 feet social distancing wherever possible
- Displaying random digital pop-up reminders on all staff computers daily
- Fogging each classroom, office with sanitation mist daily and misting each bus at the conclusion of each run
- Running fresh-air ventilation flushes of buildings daily and adding additional fresh-air flushes when a confirmed case has been identified in a building
- Running portable air sanitizing units in classrooms and offices of any building that does not have a modernized HVAC system
- Using high grade air filters in HVAC buildings
- Providing access to and information about vaccination clinics for students, parents/caregivers, and employees
- Providing random, voluntary weekly COVID testing opportunities for students and staff in all schools
- Operating a publicly available COVID Hotline and providing a COVID data dashboard on the district's website

Despite these multiple layered measures, we have had 1,211 identified positive cases of COVID since data began being collected last year. Of those, 454 (37.5%) are cases of employees testing positive representing 6.8% of our total staff members and 757 (62.5%) are cases of students testing positive representing 2.1% of our student population.

While there are beginning to be signs of hope regarding possible treatments for those who get COVID, prevention continues to be the best tool available to us. Therefore, beginning this month, CMSD will be implementing mandatory weekly COVID testing for any employee who does not provide proof of vaccination. To put this additional prevention measure in place, this week each of the nearly 3000 employees who have not yet provided the district with proof of vaccination will receive a survey to determine if: a) the employee is already vaccinated; b) the employee is willing to get the first doses of the vaccine on or before October 15th; or, c) the employee does not plan to

provide proof of vaccination and therefore will be required to participate in the mandatory weekly testing protocol.

While more details will be coming soon, those who elect not to provide proof of vaccination will be required to participate in the mandatory testing protocol. This weekly testing will occur at their worksite at no cost to the employee.

As much as I know we would like to, we can't simply avoid COVID-19. Instead, together, we must continue to take every possible measure to keep safe and healthy until this pandemic finally ends. I will be sharing more details about this additional safety measure in the days ahead.

Sincerely,
Eric Gordon

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