



March 9, 2021

Dear Parent(s) & Guardians:

So far the 2020/2021 school year has uniquely tested our ability to adapt and work together; it has also taught us valuable lessons for Spring 2021 and beyond. The onset of spring brings many activities and the desire to be more social is elevated. Many of us are fatigued with COVID protocols and social distance guidelines but we must remain diligent and remind ourselves that practicing social distancing has allowed our district to remain open, while many districts around us have recently shut down some of their schools or athletic teams once again.

We are proud of the fact that our elementary buildings have been able to be open all year thus far while some districts around the state have had all schools closed and our middle schools have only shut down during the mandatory executive order by the state. Keeping our high school open has been more of a challenge, but our community and students have responded and worked hard to responsibly gather outside of school and be active positive participants in following safety protocols to help keep our schools safe and open.

As we head into spring and the year-end activities that it traditionally brings, we wanted to update families that planning for these activities will be determined and guided by the current recommendations set forth by the state and county health department. We will continue to share the latest [toolkit updates](#) from the Kent County Health Department on our [website](#) and update parents and families as needed about substantial changes that would require a major shift for our students or staff. Currently, administrators, staff, and a select number of students are meeting to come up with multiple scenarios for year-end activities. The current [MDHHS Executive Order](#) will remain in effect until April 19, and each building will release communication about spring activities (graduations, field days, etc.) shortly after the anticipated new order is in place (or prior to if possible).

While the vaccination rollout has provided some hope for a more relaxed environment in the near future, we are not yet out of the woods. The end goal for "herd immunity" is 70% of the population vaccinated and Kent County currently has approximately 21% of the population over the age of 18 vaccinated. Our hope is that the community and state continue to trend in the right direction which will provide the greatest opportunity for spring activities and the best end of the year possible for our students.

Thank you for your continued patience as we continue working our way through this pandemic – together.

Sincerely,

CCS Administrative Team