



FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #57

111 N Main Street
Falls City, OR 97344
Phone: 503-787-3521

Business Office Fax: 503-787-5805
High School Fax: 503-787-1507
Elem. School Fax: 503-787-3239

"Falls City School District provides well-rounded opportunities for students to become productive, positive citizens and life-long learners"

Cory Ellis
Superintendent

Art Houghtaling
K-8 Principal

Micke Kidd
High School Principal

1/21/22

Hello Mountaineer Families!!!

We hope this letter finds you well! We wanted to give you a quick update on how our goal is progressing to keep our schools open and keep everyone safe. We have had 22 positive covid cases in our district in the past two weeks amongst staff and students. We have been able to keep the spread down because of the district's mitigation efforts (masks, social distancing, etc) and the quick thinking of families to keep sick children at home. This omicron variant mimics a cold even more than the others so it is definitely hard to know if you have COVID or not. The other thing about this variant is because it is a lighter viral load, it doesn't show up in tests right away. These factors and the guidance from the state make it so we are changing the way we handle positive COVID cases and "close contacts" almost weekly if not sometimes daily.

It is likely that you have received a call about your student needing to quarantine or "test to stay" because of a positive test or being a close contact. Those phone calls are probably very frustrating and put families in a bind. We want you to know we are doing all we can to reduce the amount of students missing school and to keep our schools open.

The other important thing to know is just yesterday we found out our bus driver we had for the last two days tested positive for COVID on 1/20/22. Luckily he wears his mask well and none of our students have to quarantine unless they develop symptoms. After that news we received word that the team that our high school boys played on 1/19/22 had a player test positive on 1/20/22. We have been told that we will be seeing numbers like this for January and some of February.

Thank you for your support! Together we will get through this! As always, if you have any questions or concerns please contact Amy Houghtaling (503) 787-3521 x1002 or Nicole Clark at (503) 787-3521 for the elementary school.

Thank you,



Cory Ellis
Superintendent

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The following has been designated to coordinate compliance with these legal requirements and may be contacted at the Falls City School District office for additional information and/or compliance issues, Title II Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator: Director of Special Programs, 111 N Main St., Falls City, OR 97344, 503-787-3521.