



Camp Road Middle School

August 30, 2021

Cougar News

Parler's Ponderings:

When I accepted the role to return as Interim Principal I really thought we were beyond the COVID-19 crisis. But obviously we are not yet there. CRMS currently has eight students identified as positive cases and five times as many who have been identified as close contacts. While I don't have exact numbers, I would say that approximately 95% of our students are coming to school with a mask. And those who have "forgotten" theirs, are always willing to pick one up when asked upon entering the building. I am obligated to honor the written requests of that five percent who do not want their child to wear a mask at school.

After managing this situation for eight days, I believe the school can make some improvements with our safety protocol. One way is to continuously reinforce the proper way to wear a mask. **See my photo at the end of his article.** Another way is to spread the students out even more when they are eating lunch in the cafeteria and to utilize the outdoor dining area as soon as it cools off a bit. Thirdly, is to not give students the option to remove their mask once they are seated in their classroom and sitting three or more feet apart. By doing this the teachers would then need to implement 5-10 minute mask breaks every hour and this could easily be done by allowing half of the class to take the first few minutes and the other half of the class the next few minutes.

Parents can help us manage our safety protocols by ensuring your child has a mask every day; reminding your child about the proper way to wear a mask; not allowing your child to offer resistance when a teacher redirects a student about mask protocols; and getting your child vaccinated if over 12 years of age.

Some things I have learned in this process or things that need clarification for parents are:

1. "**Fully Vaccinated**" means **two weeks** after a person's second shot (or two weeks after the J&J shot which is a single dose). If your child is fully vaccinated and is identified as a close contact, the student does not have to quarantine, but parents should still monitor their child for symptoms. The parent must show proof to our school nurse.
2. When **three or more** students in a class are identified as having tested positive for COVID, that entire class is **SHUT DOWN**. That means all students in that class must quarantine. This situation occurred over the weekend with two 8th grade classes (a Journalism Class and a science class) that must now quarantine through September 6.

3. When **one** positive case has been identified in a grade level (6th, 7th, or 8th), all parents in the grade will receive an email with a standard form letter letting them know this. This is the procedure for middle schools since all students change classes six times a day and interact in multiple situations. It is a courtesy notification to let parents know of a positive case in their child's grade level. It does not mean that the child was in contact with the student who tested positive.

Starting this Monday, August 30, the school has eight teacher who have agreed to tutor the quarantined students with the work assigned to them by their teachers on Google Classroom and Canvas. These eight teachers will be online from 4:00 PM-5:30 PM, Monday-Thursday. If you child is quarantined, the school will email your child and you with the schedule and zoom links.

In closing, we all need to work together to keep our school community safe, bring down these COVID numbers, beat COVID, and aim for that CCSD Board of Trustees date of October 15, when hopefully we no longer have to wear masks.

And if you are the recipient of a phone call or written correspondence from the nurse or administrative team identifying your child as a close contact who needs to quarantine, please don't be so harsh on the school folks. We are not the enemy, COVID-19 is the enemy.

Have a great week and stay healthy.



CHROME BOOKS

.All chrome books have been distributed and the administrative team and guidance were very busy for several days dealing with inappropriate use. When students write inappropriate or alarming things in emails to other students or in their Google Classroom, a software called “Gaggle” is triggered by certain words or statements (usually suicide, bombs, threats, fighting, drugs, alcohol, and things of a sexual nature). An email is sent to the school administrators which always results with either an administrator or school counselor meeting with one or more students. Now, that your child has a chrome book, please reinforce with your child the importance of using it just for school use and not personal reasons and to keep all correspondence appropriate.

Paying School Fees

Thanks to the many, many families who attended Fact and Fee Day and paid their student activity fee (\$35), their band fees (\$50), joined the PTO (\$5), and contributed to the PTO Donation in Lieu of Fundraising Campaign (\$35). If you did not attend Fact and Fee Day, you may still pay these fees through this link, which is also located on the home page of our web site:

<https://camproad.revtrak.net>.

You may also scan the QR code below. Thank you for your support of Camp Road Middle School and its PTO.



FALL MAP (MEASURES OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS) TESTING

MAP testing will be administered on Wednesday, September 1 and Thursday, September 2. Please have your child on time for school and in school through the end of the testing period. **Sixth grade** will test 8:45 AM-11:39 AM; **seventh grade** will test 8:45 AM-10:39 AM; and **eighth grade** will test 8:45 AM-11:42 AM. Students who are quarantined will test upon their return to school as the district's window for administration of MAP testing is open until September 24.

Thank You Volunteer Landscapers

There were six parents who answered my plea for help in the school yard. At least three of them worked over the last two-three days. As soon as I have permission from each one of these parents, I will thank them publicly in next week's newsletter for giving a few hours each month to keep the landscape looking professional.

David Parler



Calendar

September

September 1	Reading MAP test
September 2	Math MAP test
September 6	Labor Day Holiday, no school
September 7	Second round of COVID vaccines from Fact and Fee Day
September 21	Quarter 1 Progress Reports are sent home
September 24	Early Release at 1:30 PM

October

October 5	School Picture Day
October 12	6 th grade science benchmark tests
October 13	8 th grade PSAT
October 22	eLearning Day (all students learn at home); end of Quarter 1