

December 1, 2021

Dear Knappa Community:

We hope that you had a fun and restful Thanksgiving. As we enter these last couple of weeks of 2021 we are hopeful that as the school year continues, we can continue a path toward normalcy. Winter sports are upon us, student learning is in full swing, and we are finding ways to fill the labor shortages we have been facing in our transportation department and teaching ranks.

A reminder about winter sports: We are glad to be beyond gym fan size limitations and last spring's differential treatment for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. However, for sports to run well we will need to follow state requirements, including:

- Students are not required to wear a mask indoors when practicing or playing a competitive sport.
- Officials actively officiating a competitive sport that requires a high level of physical exertion by the official are not required to wear a mask (i.e., basketball and wrestling in the Winter).
- Students not actively participating (i.e., on the sideline during an indoor or outdoor competition, etc.) are required to wear a mask.
- Indoor spectators (5 years or older), coaches and support staff, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a mask in an indoor setting, except when actively eating or drinking.

Please, if you are coming to games to cheer for the Loggers or Bulldogs, honor these requirements so that we can all peacefully and respectfully support the athletes. These are statewide requirements and our staff prefer to enjoy the game with the community rather than having to be the "mask police."

COVID cases in Clatsop County have decreased since my last letter from 196.1 cases per 100,000 to 167.56 cases per 100,000. We currently have one staff member and two students quarantining related to positive tests. We also have three students on quarantine because of out-of-school close contacts.

Next week, on Wednesday, December 8 at 6:00, I will be hosting a *Chat with the Superintendent*. A link to the event will be posted on our website shortly. I am glad to once again engage with the community with updates about our schools. I look forward to meeting with you.

We have set aside Thursday evening, December 16 for our winter concert. It will be at 7:00 p.m. in the high school gym. We will be featuring middle school beginning band, HS choir, percussion and beginning band. We hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

Bill Fritz, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Knappa School District #4