

Hello everyone,

As most are aware, Orange County has seen an uptick in COVID cases in the past weeks. Schools have not been spared from the rise in cases. Springs Valley Community Schools has seen a surge in positive cases, and as a result we have had to make the unfortunate decision to quarantine a large number of students who were close contacts. This is a stressful time for everyone involved. I know that parents have concerns about their children. Our teachers and staff do as well. I certainly do.

In recent days I have received a number of phone calls from concerned parents and other individuals. All of them voice excellent opinions on the matter, and for the most part I agree with all of them. The problem is that I have received calls with completely opposing viewpoints.

- Some want a mask mandate, some do not want a mask mandate
- Some want me to close school, some want me to keep school open
- Some want to loosen quarantine restrictions, some want to tighten quarantine restrictions

There is no perfect answer that can satisfy all parents and guardians. Therefore, at present we will continue to address the situation as we are now. All we can ask for is your grace, patience, and understanding. You will not agree with all of our decisions, but then again no decision will meet with agreement from everyone. There are strong views on all sides of this issue.

We are tasked with educating your children. We are not physicians, scientists, or attorneys. Therefore, I will continue to communicate with health officials and area administrators, weigh options, and make decisions based on what I feel is best for ALL students with the understanding that we cannot possibly satisfy everyone.

We will continue to allow parents to choose masks or not until we are mandated to require them. We will continue to keep school open as long as we have the staff to do so. We will continue to enforce quarantine measures as we have since this began. We will continue to provide the best education possible given the circumstances.

Thank you for your understanding and support,

Trevor Apple
Superintendent