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November 30, 2021

Dear Bethel Staff, Parents & Community:

The Bethel Public School administration has continuously monitored and documented Covid-19 positivity rates in the district and Pottawatomie County during the first semester of school. We have observed a significant decrease in the number of new positive Covid-19 cases among students and staff members. Upon conferring with the Board of Education, we have made the decision to establish a Covid-19 threshold for the following protocols:

- If Covid-19 cases stay below 2.5% of the total building site population for two consecutive weeks (reporting ending on Thursdays), the district will eliminate required quarantines for close contacts.
- If Covid-19 positive cases increase and exceed 2.5% for two consecutive weeks, the district would reinstate required quarantines for close contacts and parents will be notified through the building site communication platforms.

The threshold based on building site population equates to Bethel Lower Elementary (8), Bethel Upper Elementary (7), Bethel Middle School (7), and Bethel High School (8). Since we have met these criteria, the quarantine requirement for close contacts will be lifted Tuesday, November 30, 2021. Mandatory quarantines will still be in place for all known positive cases, following guidelines established by the CDC and OSDH. Mask-wearing is still welcome in our buildings and events.

Respectfully,

Dr. Matt Posey

Dr. Matt Posey, Superintendent
Bethel Public Schools