

Dear Country Day Families,

Congratulations! Country Day wrapped up its first quarter of the 2020-21 school year, and we are incredibly thankful for the sacrifices our community has made to help keep CCDS open for learning.

We've been blessed with beautiful weather to aid our efforts, but the cooler months are coming. Less outdoor time means we must double our commitment to adhering to behaviors that allow us to remain open for in-person instruction. Masking up, forgoing travel, limiting gatherings, getting vaccines, etc. are just a few of the measures we're taking to help us stay Country Day strong.

As the pandemic surges in some regions, it is foreseeable that Ohio could mandate schools to shift to remote learning. Our goal is to keep the number of cases down. By erring on the side of caution, particularly during the holidays, you can help make a difference between school being open or online. Start thinking now of how you might plan differently to celebrate the upcoming holidays and consider:

- where you gather (indoors vs. outdoors)
- the length of and number of people at your gatherings
- gatherings that include out-of-town guests who must travel
- behaviors of attendees prior to and during your gatherings

Your choices affect our chances of staying open.

### Ohio Public Health Alert System

A handful of parents contacted the RRT about Hamilton County's return to a red rating (level three out of four levels) as tracked by the Ohio Department of Health. Yes, we'd prefer that Hamilton County

**ALLERGIES, COLD, FLU AND COVID-19**  
Most common symptoms for each

SYMPTOMS	Allergies	Cold	Flu	COVID-19
Body aches		✓		sometimes
Chills		rarely	✓	sometimes
Dry cough	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fatigue	sometimes	✓	✓	✓
Fever		rarely	✓	✓
Headache	✓	rarely	✓	sometimes
Itchy eyes	✓			
Loss of taste/smell	sometimes	rarely	sometimes	✓
Nasal congestion	✓	✓	✓	rarely
Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea		sometimes	sometimes	sometimes
Runny nose	✓	✓	✓	rarely
Sneezing	✓	✓	✓	sometimes
Sore throat	sometimes	✓	✓	sometimes
Shortness of breath	sometimes	rarely	✓	✓

were in the lower orange or yellow levels, but this particular [advisory system](#) is comprised of seven indicators used to determine a county's rating. As the school's medical advisory board has emphasized, this particular measure can be somewhat confusing since several of the indicators aren't applicable to schools when making a decision to remain open or shift to remote learning. This advice was also confirmed by Cincinnati Children's Hospital during its monthly [Return to Learning](#) sessions. The health specialists at Children's use the [Harvard Risk Level Map](#), which CCDS also consults. They see this informing tool as a more direct reflection of the Covid situation in a particular state and its counties. Also, evaluating how many days a school is open against the total number of cases reported at a school, they feel, is more helpful in making a shift-to-remote determination.

During the *Return to Learning*, the Children's Hospital panelists shared a [symptoms chart](#) that helps distinguish the common symptoms associated with Covid-19, allergies, cold, and flu. It may prove useful to you as we approach cold and flu season to help distinguish among illness. And, it gives us another welcome opportunity to encourage you to get flu vaccines this year.

## Ohio Travel Advisory – Weekly Update

Ohio updates its [travel advisory list](#) weekly. Individuals entering Ohio after travel to a state with a positivity rate of 15% or higher are required to quarantine for 14 days\*. States currently on the list are:

South Dakota	23.6%
Idaho	23.5%
Wisconsin	21.1%
Iowa	18.8%
Wyoming	16.7%
Kansas	16.6%
Nevada	15.7%
Indiana	15.6%

Thank you again for your commitment to the well-being and safety of the Country Day community. Together, we can stay healthier.

Stay safe,

The CCDS Rapid Response Team

Tina Moulin, Ashley Ward (Co-Chairs)  
Dennis Coyle, Jackie Fiora, Theresa Hirschauer

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\*The travel advisory helps lessen the chance of Covid at CCDS since travel increases the chance of getting and spreading the virus. The RRT is willing to consider exceptions on a case by case basis due to circumstances, type of travel (essential business travel), location (county with low positivity rate within a travel ban state), and type of travel (personal vehicle versus commercial airliner).

**CHALLENGE YOURSELF. BE YOURSELF.**

**#WeAreCountryDay**