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**Paul Sevillano, Ed.D., Superintendent**

September 21, 2021

Dear Farmersville Unified School District Family,

We want to provide parents with updated information regarding COVID-19 cases and district actions. Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency has reported a 33% increase in the number of COVID-19 student cases across Tulare County. The district is taking all the necessary precautions to ensure that students and staff are in a safe learning environment as outlined in our FUSD COVID-19 Safety Plan approved by the California Department of Public Health (please see FUSD Webpage).

Farmersville Unified is only one of two districts in Tulare County that is providing free COVID-19 student testing. The district has reduced the spread of COVID-19 in our schools by testing and quarantining students, along with sanitizing classrooms when an exposure occurs at school. Since the start of the school year, our district has verified 44 total positive COVID-19 student cases districtwide (TK-12) out of 2,457 students, **which is less than 1% of positive COVID-19 student cases** this school year.

Here are a few important reminders to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 in schools:

- Prescreen students for COVID-19 symptoms daily before sending them to school.
- Do not send students to school who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Contact the school to have your student tested for COVID-19 if they are experiencing symptoms.
- Provide your student with a clean washable face mask daily.
- Provide your student with a refillable water container daily – water bottle refilling stations are available
- Model preventative practices such as regular hand washing, wearing mask indoors, physical distancing etc.
- No outside food is allowed at school (packed student lunches are allowable)

Our district has also transitioned to 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. The district has purchased two Chromebook computers for every student. One computer for home (required) and one computer to be used at school. Teachers have the ability to broadcast online classroom learning for all students directly from their classrooms. Student learning is simultaneous for in-person students, short-term Independent Study students (less than 15 days due to quarantine), and long-term Independent Study students. Students who are quarantined due to COVID-19, may continue to receive virtual classroom instruction by logging into the teacher's Google Classroom or other online learning platforms (e.g., Apex).

We appreciate your partnership in keeping our students and staff healthy and safe! If you have further questions, please contact your child's school or the district office for additional information.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Paul Sevillano*

Dr. Paul Sevillano, Superintendent