July 19, 2022

To: Parents/Guardians of students attending the Charter School of Excellence  
From: Christopher Fortin, Director of Pupil Services  
Reason: Return to school planning for students who may be at higher risk for severe infection

As we plan for a return to school in the fall of 2022, CSE has developed a Health and Safety Plan to address the needs of our students and staff. As part of our plan, we are required to determine if additional measures are necessary to protect any student who may be at a higher risk of severe infection.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has identified the following conditions being associated with a risk of severe infection (7/5/2022):

- Bronchiectasis  
- Cancer  
- Chronic kidney disease  
- COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)  
- Cystic Fibrosis  
- Type 1 or 2 diabetes mellitus  
- Down Syndrome  
- HIV infection  
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant  
- Serious heart conditions (such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies)  
- Interstitial lung disease  
- Neurological conditions  
- Liver disease  
- Overweight and obesity (body mass index of 25 or higher)  
- Physical Inactivity  
- Pregnancy  
- Primary Immunodeficiencies  
- Sickle cell disease  
- Smoking, current or former  
- Solid organ or blood stem cell transplant  
- Stroke or cerebrovascular disease, which affects blood flow to the brain  
- Substance use disorders  
- Thalassemia
Should you believe that your child is “at risk of severe infection” or that you are unsure, we are asking that you discuss this with your child’s physician, and, if necessary, obtain a letter that identifies any additional precautions or safety measures necessary to address their needs. The current return to school plan is posted at www.charterschoolofexcellence.org. Generally speaking, the plan reflects the best available data and evidence on maximizing educational opportunities while mitigating disease spread. For example, students and staff will be required to practice universal precautions and social distancing upon a return to school.

Please send the physician letter directly to our Lead School Nurse as a scanned document attached to an email (preferred), or send in the US Mail to the Skills Center, Charter School of Excellence 1309 French St. Erie, PA 16501.

Sincerely,

Christopher Fortin
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Charter School of Excellence
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