



Education Department

2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR - COVID-19 Update #12

December 30, 2021

Greetings South Central Conference Parents,

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to wreak havoc throughout the world. Today, we are inundated with news surrounding the Omicron Variant. COVID-19 cases have increased, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The most recent (*at the time of my collaboration with CDC officials*) COVID-19 cases on a national level is in excess of 53.7 million.

Due to the surge of COVID-19 cases stemming from the Omicron Variant, we are revising our original plan for returning to school from the Christmas break. We (*COVID-19 taskforce & Dr. Raynon Andrews, SCC COVID-19 liaison to the superintendent*) are conscious of the timing of this correspondence and aware that family arrangements will have to be made; however, there are some COVID-19 matters beyond our control. Our overall actions are directly aligned with the health and safety of all stakeholders.

- A negative COVID-19 test result is required before returning from the Christmas break. The negative test result will need to be within 72 hours of the school date of return (January 18th).
- Proof of a negative PCR COVID test is preferred. We are trying to arrange PCR testing for our students. Rapid antigen testing may be acceptable as an alternative. More details on the possible use of the at-home-COVID-19 testing is forthcoming.
- January 5 – January 14 (**8 Days of Virtual School for Students, Teachers & Staff**)
- January 5 – January 14 (**8 Days of on-site Virtual School for Teachers and Staff**)
- Students will return to on-site school on January 18, 2022.
- **January 4 will not be a school day for students.** We are requesting that parents be prepared to hear from and visit their child's school to pick up any school supplies needed for Virtual School. Albeit, safety is our top priority, January 3rd and 4th will serve as preparation and virtual school supplies pick-up days for planning and executing two weeks of rigorous Virtual School instruction for our students (*virtual lesson planning, textbook pick-up (if applicable), iPad pick-up, etc.*).

More details on picking up Virtual School supplies and this overall process will be communicated by your building principal. South Central Conference continues to be committed to offering your child a **Quality Christian Education**. May God remain at the zenith of every decision we make, as we set out to serve you and your family.

In His service,

Johnny Holliday
SCC Education Superintendent