

STACY SMITH, Healthcare Coordinator:

Hello TMI! Nurse Stacy here bringing you the weekly community update. First and foremost, I want you all to know how wonderful it is to see our students back on campus and we are working hard to *keep* everyone on campus. Now that we're back, we need to continue wearing masks, keep social distancing and wash our hands frequently. I know it can be a bit overwhelming with all the information being sent out, so I'd like to review some of the key points coming from the Health Center.

First, what happens when we have a positive case on campus? I know there is some anxiety around this question. I can tell you that once we receive notification of a positive case, contact tracing will take priority along with notifying those who have been in close contact with the person testing positive. The Metro Health Department will be notified and we will then be advised on how to proceed.

Alright, let's talk about masks. Please make sure that you are sending your students to campus with approved masks. This means surgical masks, properly fitted N95 or KN95 masks and 100% cotton masks with at least two layers of fabric. If you have requested the blue surgical masks from TMI, the next monthly distribution will take place next week. If your student is wearing a reusable mask, please make sure that it is getting washed daily. Please do not send your student to campus with a mask that has a vent on the outside and ensure that the masks fit your student's face properly.

I also want to encourage you and your family to go out and get your flu shots as soon as you can if you have not already. I know that we normally have HEB pharmacy come in and do our flu shots. Unfortunately, they will not be able to do this for us this year. However, most pharmacies and doctor's offices do give flu shots and make it as convenient as possible to get them.

You will notice that we have added the honor pledge at the bottom of the daily screening. We are calling upon you all to answer the screening questions with honor and integrity for the overall safety of the TMI community. When you have a student with any symptoms listed on the screening or has been exposed to someone with COVID, I ask that you reach out to me so that I can help guide you through the return-to-school process. Let's talk about that process. If your student presents with a qualifying symptom or symptoms, they will need to be evaluated by their physician. I will send you a form that will need to be completed by your student's physician and be turned in to me before returning to school. On this form, your student's physician will

determine if they require testing or if they will be diagnosed with an alternative diagnosis. I have included this form in the email so that you see exactly what to expect. I will help you walk through this process to make it as painless as possible.

Now, can the qualifying symptoms mean there is something else going on besides COVID? Absolutely! Do I want to send our kiddos home for symptoms that I wouldn't normally, absolutely not. We understand that in COVID times there are many new frustrations. Having me call you at work to come pick up your student and be evaluated may be on your list of frustrations. We get it and we realize it is an inconvenience. However, it's for the greater good of our community. It's also for those on campus who have a compromised immune system or live with someone that is immunocompromised. We must love our neighbors all the time, but especially right now.

So, if you have any questions or want to discuss anything I mentioned further, I am happy to speak with you. Please don't hesitate to reach out. I want to thank you, TMI, for your grace and understanding as we continue to work together to keep our community safe. I wish you all a wonderful and relaxing weekend.

MICHAEL CALL, Director of Safety & Security:

Good morning, TMI. I want to introduce myself as the Director of Safety and Security here at TMI. I've had the pleasure of meeting some of you, parents. I've been here since February when I retired from the FBI and was fortunate enough to come here to serve as your safety and security director. I want to talk to you a couple minutes today about a situation we have on campus that needs to be rectified. We fully realize that this is going to take some time and effort and, logistically, there's no easy answer for this right now. But, what I want to talk to you about today is our current pick-up and drop-off procedures. We fully recognize that this is a tough situation, there's only so much asphalt, only so much parking, and only so many places we can put people for drop off and pickup. Ultimately, our goal is to keep your children safe as they are accessing campus and leaving campus at the end of the day.

Right now we have a situation where we have kids who are crossing the flag circle – juniors and seniors trying to get to their cars – and it's a little bit of an unsafe situation because we have a lot of people trying to pick up there and drop off. In addition to that, we also have a situation where our traffic tail goes out into the community, and some days all the way to Camp Bullis, which

really prohibits us from potentially bringing on emergency response vehicles if we had that situation occur during drop off and pickup. Lastly, we also have a situation where the current drop-off and pickup we've used at the front part of campus is a fire lane and we've got to try to keep that clear for emergency vehicles.

So, what we're going to do starting Monday, October 19th, is we are going to move our drop-off and pickup location to the back part of the campus behind Ayres Hall. That is the current location where our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students are being dropped off and picked up in the afternoon. We're doing this for a few reasons, we want to try to keep the flag circle area clear so our junior and senior students can get to their vehicles safely, we want to try to eliminate that traffic tail that is coming all the way off campus, and then, ultimately, we are just trying to make sure that we can get you here and get your students in the car as safe as possible.

I'm going to ask for your patience as we move forward on the drop-off and pick-up procedures as we try to make this as convenient as possible, but most importantly, we're focusing on safety. So the current drop-off and pickup at the flag circle at the front part of campus will be closed starting Monday.

Ultimately, I want you all to feel safe and secure in the knowledge that everything we do here, everything my staff does, is for one thing and that's for the safety and security of your children. That is what drives us every day. That's what makes our world go around and that's what we're focusing on. So thank you for your patience. If you have any questions, reach out to the school and I'll be happy to try to talk to you about ways to try to make this better.

I Hope you have a great weekend. Thank you for your time, I appreciate it.