

May 5, 2021

Dear Members of the Keystone Community:

The 2020-2021 academic year is rapidly coming to a close and soon summer will arrive. While the end of this challenging time gives us all a chance to pause and collect our breath, it is also important to realize that our responsibilities to ourselves and each other will not end when students leave campus.

While we are making progress in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, there is still work to be done, particularly regarding our plans to resume more normal routines during the summer months and, especially, as we prepare for the start of school in the fall.

As you know, our plan is to resume face-to-face classes with the beginning of the 2021-2022 academic year in August. We also hope to begin many more in-person events and activities which have been curtailed because of the pandemic. Indoor gatherings such as club meetings, musical performances, social events, and more can only restart if the COVID-19 threat is dramatically reduced. To accomplish this important and worthy goal, we need everyone's help, especially regarding COVID-19 vaccinations.

Those who are fully vaccinated can now gather outside without a mask and do not have to worry about being placed in quarantine as a result of contact tracing. Also, the Pennsylvania Department of Health recently announced that the current order requiring Pennsylvanians to wear masks will be lifted when 70 percent of residents 18 and older are fully vaccinated.

We are not currently requiring vaccinations for the Keystone community. We are, however, strongly recommending that everyone receive these critical vaccinations so we can return to our daily activities as quickly and safely as possible. If you have not yet received your vaccine, please make plans to do so as soon as possible. Locally and elsewhere, vaccine clinics and locations are advertised in most communities. You may also visit www.vaccines.gov to find a vaccine location near you.

So please, vax up! You'll be helping yourself, your family, and your friends to live and enjoy life more fully. Thank you so much for your cooperation. Please stay healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

Tracy L. Brundage, Ph.D.