

MEMO

TO: Students, Parents/Guardians, Staff

FROM: Katherine (Kate) Maschmeyer, Joel Bianchi, Amanda Lee, and Maxwell Yearwood

SUBJECT: Respecting School Community's Health & Privacy

DATE: 09/15/2022

You may have heard that some schools are implementing a required contact tracing smartphone app. We will not be implementing such a program at our school at this time. We are using our standard contract tracing program to keep students and staff safe.

- Reasons why we are not implementing a contract tracing app:
 - We have information security concerns: what do the apps have access to and what do they do with the data?
 - There are significant legal and ethical questions regarding asking students to install apps on a private device
 - Not everyone has a phone, so regular contact tracing is still required - time and effort is not saved for the district.
 - Do the apps keep up to date with changing county/state definitions of "exposure?"
 - Can we be sure that users of the apps are reporting accurate information?
 - Students "prank" the system by claiming COVID and then all their friends would be "close contacts"
 - If extra barriers put up to ensuring no false negative claims, it's likely there are many positive covid that are unreported
 - Security flaws, security breaches?
 - Exclusionary concerns
- Conditions under which an app might be reconsidered?
 - Funds provided for mandatory school devices for all students
 - Ensure that only location data is used for app, data is not shared with 3rd parties
 - Written assurance that clearly established legal and ethical standards are met by app creators.