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February 25, 2022

The TABCO Representative Assembly, the governing body of TABCO, passed the following motion at its meeting on February 24, 2022:

"That the President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County write an open letter to the Baltimore County Board of Education to advocate a TABCO position for the maintenance of a county-wide mask mandate for all employees, students, and visitors, until the following criteria are met as adopted by the State Board of Education in January 2022: 80% of staff and students are fully vaccinated, if 80% of the full county population is fully vaccinated; or if a county's COVID-19 transmission rates are low or moderate for 14 consecutive days, as reported by the CDC."

From the very start of the pandemic, TABCO's position has been for following the science and following CDC guidelines. We appreciate that we have been able to work with Dr. Williams and his leadership team as we have navigated through the many phases of COVID. Through conversations, collaboration, Memoranda of Understanding, and more – we have all worked to keep the health and safety of our students, staff, and communities at the forefront. The physical, emotional, mental health, and academic challenges have been and continue to be addressed on all fronts.

As has been the case since March 13, 2020, things continue to change rapidly and new guidance and information leads to changes in not only how we view the pandemic but also how we respond to it. We realize this and we are ready to continue the conversations and collaboration with Dr. Williams and his leadership team as we face the changes, challenges, and opportunities that we will encounter not only from COVID but all topics that affect our students, educators, and communities.

Thank you,

-Cindy

Cindy L. Sexton TABCO President