Madeira Families:

It's hard to believe that we have completed the first quarter of our school year this past Friday. As a school district, the resilience of our in-person and at home learners has been tremendous as has been the incredible efforts of our teachers, staff and administrators. Please see this short Video Message from the Superintendent.

As a school community, we faced the first quarter unknowns together – unknowns about starting school and our learning modalities, unknowns about all the safety protocols, unknowns about athletics and band participation, and unknowns about what happens when we have a positive COVID-19 test, etc. Despite it all, we've managed to keep our My Madeira Promise to our friends, neighbors and colleagues even when it was tough. Thank you to the many families who have been extra vigilant in doing your health checks and to the many, many students and parents who through contact tracing, in an instant, had to adjust lives and schedules to quarantine at home. We know this hasn't been easy, isn't fun, and yet our Madeira families, students, and staff have persevered. Most importantly, within each of our positive cases, our students and staff have safely recovered from the COVID-19 virus.

Amidst all of the uncertainty of starting up our school year, we know that second quarter will no doubt be equally challenging. We continue as a school community to meet weekly on Thursday evenings with our Madeira HealthWatch Assessment Team to monitor our local indicators of the COVID-19 virus. As I'm sure you may have seen in the news lately, our numbers in Ohio and within our county are trending higher in and around Madeira and the communities we work in. We will continue to watch our indicators and make adjustments as needed to maximize our students' and staff's abilities to be together.

As a reminder, if we were to make a learning modality adjustment, we've previously shared our updated Madeira Hybrid Learning Model that allows our students to spread out more and as we are learning, could potentially help us to reduce the number of close contacts that may be identified when there is a positive case. This Madeira Hybrid Learning Model also would allow for students to come in to school at least two days a week while attending online the other three days. While a decision has not been made at this time to move in this direction, we are reminding and asking families to think through your own unique family plans should the district need to use this learning modality or move to a full remote learning model. Since our Madeira HealthWatch Assessment Team meets each Thursday, changing learning modalities from a broader perspective would likely be shared on a Thursday, would be implemented starting the following Monday, and be in place for at least two weeks.

While we all like certainties and guarantees within our daily routines, the strength to pull through this school year will come through our trust in each other and our patience to endure changes that will no doubt be challenges for all of our families. Know that we all want what is best for our Madeira students and the teachers and staff that support them each day. As we work hard to do our part within our schools, we are also asking that as parents we all do our part beyond the school day to be sure that if and when our kids are together, we are being smart about monitoring when and how many friends they are around and when they are in public spaces, making sure we are reminding them to keep wearing their mask and washing their hands.

Again, thank you for a great first quarter and special thanks to our teachers and staff who have been working in overdrive to figure it out. It's not been easy, we know there are and will be bumps along the way, and we are thankful for your continued trust, support and patience as we work, even in this crazy year, to make Madeira a great place for kids.

Kenji Matsudo, Superintendent
Madeira City Schools

"A school community where learning is personalized and success is ensured"