Good afternoon,

As most of us are aware, the Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus is much more contagious than the earlier strains. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Delta variant is causing some vaccine breakthrough infections, but even so, most breakthrough infections are mild, and the vaccines are preventing severe illness, hospitalization, and death.

CDC recommends that everyone, including fully vaccinated individuals, wear a mask in public indoor setting in areas with substantial and high transmission. CDC is also recommending universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors.

This morning Gov. JB Pritzker announced an Illinois statewide indoor mask mandate to go into effect Monday, August 30, 2021. Pritzker said Illinois is joining other states with its mandate, adding "masks work, period." The mandate applies to anyone aged 2 or older, regardless of vaccination status. The mask mandate will apply to gyms, restaurants, bars, grocery stores, health clubs and other indoor venues.

Throughout the pandemic our actions at Calumet Carton have been guided by CDC, as well as Local and State Health departments and OSHA recommendations so we operate safely. And, as only about 60% of our employees are fully vaccinated, beginning Monday, August 30 we will require all employees, contractors and visitors while indoors on Company premises wear face masks whether they are vaccinated or not. The one exception is if you work alone in an office/cubicle and are at least 6 feet from another co-worker, you can remove your mask while at your desk.

We encourage our employees to get vaccinated and for vaccinated employees to get a booster shot when they are eligible this fall. The FDA emergency authorization of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines was one reason individuals were hesitant to be vaccinated. This past Monday, August 23 the Pfizer vaccine received full FDA approval. When you are vaccinated we appreciate being updated on your status as this will influence our future mitigation efforts.

We also remind everyone of our other COVID safety protocols that remain in place:

- Upon entry to facility have your temperature checked and comply with instruction on the temperature kiosk
- If you are unvaccinated and travel out of State to one of the areas identified as high risk you must quarantine until receiving a negative test result
- If you are awaiting Covid test results or experiencing Covid symptoms or have been in contact with an infected person immediately contact your supervisor do not report to work.
- Continue to practice social distancing and follow all sanitary/hygiene guidelines

Thank you.

Kris Schmaling

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