TO: ALL CONCERNED

DATE: March 17th, 2021

RE: Town Hall Q & A

The Town Hall this week began by reviewing the status of Mass Testing and the number of quarantines in the facility.

This was what we hope will be the last major quarantine event in this facility. Though it was certainly uncomfortable for many, we hope that it has prevented the spread of the virus this late in the pandemic at this facility.

I received many requests about the frustrations of why and how this all took place but ultimately our marching orders from Central Office were very specific on how the testing and quarantining was to occur.

Effective tomorrow we will have a much different looking facility as many of the quarantines are concluding and within a week the rest should be completed. This does not mean that we will not have some spikes in areas through the facility that do pop up, as COVID is still alive and well, but we are in a much better place given the number of recovered inmates we have and the direction the country is going.

It is most important that until we have herd immunity, i.e. enough recovered and vaccinated inmates in the facility, that we still practice strong PPE. Masks are still required to be worn whether you are vaccinated, recovered or whatever. From the Governor’s Office down, we still have no ability to not wear masks.

Questions/concerns from inmate requests:

1. Will we have to get boosters every fall like flu shots?

   I do not know that answer and I do not know that anyone does at this point. We will certainly let everyone know when we find that out.

2. Typewriters.

   There has been no clear direction yet on whether typewriters are going to be sold again or not, but it was going to be discussed this week at Central Office. Stay tuned.
3. Numerous inmates in the last few weeks from A/A have complained about the length of their quarantines.

Frankly, there were many positive and sick inmates on this Pod and we were aware that some inmates were sick and they, nor their peers down there, were telling staff. That lead to other unfortunate outcomes.

4. Can't you change some of the menu items?

The menu is set by Central Office and we must follow it. The only time we do something off the menu is if we have some opportunity or it is purchased in another manner.

5. Sega's

No updates on Sega's being available for purchase. As I have said previously, there is a pilot going on at another facility and we await its outcome and how it goes. We do plan do circulate the Sega's through the Housing Units once we are more confident with our status concerning COVID.

6. Many requests for the series, "Game of Thrones", though we have reviewed it extensively, it is not approved.

7. When will promotional transfers start again and is my transfer still good?

There is some additional movement beginning to happen through OPM, and yes, as long as you remain eligible and did not receive Misconducts, you will remain eligible for transfer once promotional transfers begin again.

8. When can we get our hair cut?

We certainly understand the need for people to get their hair cut, although this is a service that I would have to get approval for, from Central Office. Just like increasing Cohorts from 8-person to 16-person, it must be vetted and approved by Central Office.

9. Our numbers are all going in the right direction in terms of positive cases and our viral load, which is in the medium range, but ultimately, Central Office will say when we can expand to bigger Cohorts.

10. Numerous inmates wrote from B/B Unit about Tablets and how some of the counties are using them.

Clearly there was discussion on that POD about this. This is something that I have no local ability to do and it would have to be initiated from Central Office. I would suggest you write Mechanicsburg on a matter such as this.
Thank you for your continued patience.

Superintendent Clark

MRC/aae