

September 3, 2021

Dear Families,

Our goal remains to provide as much normalcy to the school environment and school year as possible, with a big focus on maintaining traditional classroom learning on a daily basis. However, with the COVID-19 pandemic surging, we need to continue promoting mitigation measures. Starting Tuesday, September 7, 2021, everyone, regardless of vaccination status, will be expected to wear facemasks within our district buildings. This requirement will be in effect through at least Friday, September 24, 2021 and may be extended further if warranted. Facemasks will continue to be required on school transportation as well.

Over the past week, we have experienced a student absentee rate as high as 10%, positive COVID cases more than double from the first two weeks of school, and a significant rise in student quarantines. The facemask requirement will add yet another layer of protection for our students and employees. It also will help reduce the number of potential quarantines and keep more close contact students in school.

It is important to note, if conditions warrant at any point during the school year, remote learning may be implemented in a short-term manner to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and continue student learning. Again, I emphasize our goal is to maintain traditional classroom learning. However, remote learning may be needed district-wide, by school building, by classroom, or possibly by individual student (if in isolation or quarantine). We will provide timely communication if this change of instructional method is needed.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in these trying times to keep students in their school classrooms.

Stay safe and go Cubs!

Brad Herman

Superintendent