



August 26, 2021

Dear Students, Families and Staff:

I hope that you have had an enjoyable summer and are planning a few last activities to enjoy before the start of the school year. Everyone at Mason is excited to see smiling faces and activities back here beginning September 7<sup>th</sup> and we hope you are too.

As a reminder, Mason Consolidated Schools will recommend that students and staff wear masks but will not require it. At this time, staff, students, families, and visitors may make the decision to wear a mask within our facilities. We ask for grace and flexibility if our plans must change based on transmission or positivity rates in the future. Students, athletes, and staff on buses are <u>required</u> to wear masks per a CDC order. The CDC has authority to issue this order and other similar orders pursuant to federal law – the Public Health Service Act. Therefore, the District will comply with the CDC order until it is rescinded by the CDC, or a court rules the order is invalid. The District expects that all school bus passengers will also comply with the order, which does exempt children under two years old and individuals with disabilities who cannot safely wear a mask.

The District will continue to increase disinfecting and sanitizing to help minimize the risk of illness in our buildings. We ask that parents encourage their children to sanitize and wash regularly. Additionally, we ask that students or staff who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or other contagious illness, remain home and report their absence and symptoms to the building office. Positive COVID-19 cases should be immediately reported to district offices. Close contact quarantines will be determined on an individual basis in collaboration with the Monroe County Health Department.

We also would like to remind you of our annual Open House on Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. We hope to see all of you there!

Here's looking forward to a wonderful year!

Sincerely,

Kelli Tuller

Superintendent

Kelli a. Tuller



# MCS COVID-19 Guidance (as of August 27, 2021)

#### **Vaccination**

- •MCS Administration **supports** that all individuals get vaccinated as soon as they become eligible.
- Vaccinated students and staff members who do not present symptoms will not be required to quarantine unless they test positive.
- MCS is not requiring individuals become vaccinated and will not separate students or staff based upon vaccination status while in school or participating in extra-curricular activities.

#### **Facial Masks**

- MCS Administration **recommends** that facial masks be worn by all individuals (students, staff, and quests) while inside of our buildings.
- All individuals are required to wear facial masks while on district school buses per current CDC mandate.
- Facial masks will be available at each building and on every school bus.

## **Contact Tracing**

- MCS Administration will contact trace all confirmed positive COVID cases.
- A 3 feet social distanced protocol will be followed when conducting contact tracing for identifying close contacts. However, specific case information will also be used to make final determinations.
- Individuals who are deemed close contacts or potential close contacts will be notified by the district.

### Quarantining

- Individuals testing positive will be quarantined for 10-14 days based upon symptom onset or test date.
- Individuals identified as close contacts through the district protocol will be quarantined 10-14 days if not fully vaccinated.
- Individuals who are properly wearing facial masks throughout the entire school day (except while eating, drinking, or when outdoors) regardless of vaccination status, will not be required to quarantine if he/she is identified as a close contact.