

Grandview

Dedicated to Relevant ♦ Challenging Learning



Grandview Friends and Family,

March 26, 2021

As we enter the final 37 days of the school year, a school year that has been challenging for all of us, we are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. COVID-19 cases are beginning to decrease and many individuals including our staff members either have been fully vaccinated or have received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

I wanted to take a moment to reach out to everyone and share an update with you on our quarantine guidelines and mask requirements both here at Grandview and in Jefferson County. As you may know, at yesterday's Jefferson County Health Department Board meeting, the county's mask order was lifted effective March 25, 2021. While the county's mask order is ending, we will continue to follow our current guidelines for mask-wearing here at Grandview. Students and staff members will be required to wear a mask when they are in school or on the bus.

Several factors play into that decision, the most important is the right for everyone to feel safe while at school. Unlike going to Walmart or McDonald's, coming to school is required for students and staff. We are also under guidance of the Governor, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the Federal Government. The plan is to finish this school year under the new guidance released yesterday for school districts and look to a future where COVID-19 cases continue to decrease and masks will eventually no longer be a requirement.

Additionally, I want to share an important update with you about quarantine guidelines. The Jefferson County Health Department has revised its guidance for quarantine requirements when students and staff members are wearing masks. Beginning today, March 26, 2021, students and staff members will only need to quarantine if they are less than 6 feet from someone who tests positive for COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes during the infectious period AND either the individual who tested positive for COVID-19 and or individuals within six feet of them are NOT wearing a mask.

This is a change to our current practice that is based on updated research, recommendations, and JCHD guidelines. Please note that if students are exposed to a positive case and have masks on, they may attend school. However, they may NOT participate in extracurricular activities or sports for 14 days. Any individual exposed to a positive case in the school setting should self-monitor and stay home at the onset of any COVID-19 symptoms.

I would like to end by thanking everyone for the hard work put in, that has allowed us to attend school the entire year on our regular schedule with only minimal closures. I believe the new quarantine guidance will help keep kids in school, which is what I believe everyone wants. Let's finish this school year strong!

Matt Zoph
(Superintendent)