



## Pioneer Pleasant Vale School, Dist. 1-56

High School -- 6520 E. Wood Rd.  
Waukomis, Oklahoma 73773

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Elementary -- 6020 E. Willow  
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BRENT KOONTZ  
Superintendent

TOM BETCHAN  
High School Principal

LARRY COONROD  
Elementary Principal

### COVID POLICY UPDATE

April 14, 2021

The school board of Pioneer Pleasant Vale Schools has voted to relax the mandatory mask policy from a requirement to a recommendation in school buildings and buses for all faculty, staff, and students, effective immediately. Face coverings are no longer required in common spaces, but is a personal choice moving forward. Pioneer Pleasant Vale Schools still respect the individual choice of teachers who ask students to wear masks in their classrooms.

This decision came after much discussion of several health and safety factors, including:

- Low risk of infection and declining numbers in Garfield County
- Vaccine opportunity more readily available for all staff and community members
- The school district has not experienced any noticeable upswings in active cases

Although we are relaxing the mask requirement, other COVID-related protocols will remain in place through the end of the school year, such as encouragement of social distancing, vigilant sanitation, and the continuation of proper quarantine practices, if necessary. Pioneer Pleasant Vale Schools will continue to monitor for any confirmed cases within the District and will take appropriate action, if necessary.

On a limited basis, visitors will be allowed on campus and must follow all rules set forth by the board and enforced by the administration. However, visitors may be asked to wear a mask at the administration's discretion.

We appreciate the understanding and willingness to wear a mask since school began in August. It has been a team effort and we are proud of our community, parents, administration, teachers, staff and students for working together to make this school year happen. After a full year of challenges, we are looking forward to experiencing a "normal" last few weeks as we wind down this school year.

Sincerely,

Brent Koontz  
Superintendent  
Pioneer Pleasant Vale Schools