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“Every Student, Every Day”

Dear UTSC Community,

We felt it necessary to reach out and share an update on our current situation in our family of schools as we continue to both educate and maintain the health and safety of your child(ren) here in Union Township.

First, we want to publicly commend each and every one of you for educating your child(ren) to continue to adhere to our current safeguards in combating the spread of the Covid virus. As of this letter’s distribution our Covid dashboard (found at [www.union.k12.in.us](http://www.union.k12.in.us)) remains at a manageable level for the safe continuation of our recommended status of mask wearing. While we continue to encourage students and staff, who are unvaccinated, to take proper precautions and wear face coverings, we are not yet at a decision point to require mask wearing. Simply put, our UTSC family of students, staff and stakeholders are doing their part and taking all the necessary precautions to limit the spread in all of the schools, and in fact,  Porter County continues to be 1 of only 4 counties in our state that remain at the “yellow” status advisory level, as of September 1st. On behalf of all of us, both in our schools and out, THANK YOU!!

We continue to monitor our numbers daily, both in our county and our district boundaries to help make the best decisions for the well-being of OUR child(ren). As you know it is a very delicate and sensitive issue in our society, however, as we appreciate the values and views of all stakeholders, one thing we will NOT waiver on is finding the best option to keep our students safe while providing them the educational experience they should richly deserve.

On a different, but yet, equally important topic, we believe that it is important for us to recognize that there have been some frustrations with our bus pickup and dropoff times and the inconsistencies that occur. Please know that we are aware of these problems and are working through the challenges that we face with local road construction/closures, driver shortages and even an inordinate amount of trains that have either slowed or stopped at crossings! We ask that you continue to be patient with us and, most importantly, the drivers, who are doing everything in their power to meet the arranged times and bring your child to school and back home safely.

These are trying times indeed, but we will continue to get through the obstacles and work to make the 2021-2022 school year a remarkably wonderful experience for Every Student, Every Day!

Thank you again for your continued support and efforts!

John Hunter

Superintendent