

JOHNSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

THOM COCHRAN, SUPERINTENDENT

253 NORTH MAYO TRAIL
PAINTSVILLE, KENTUCKY 41240-1803
PHONE (606) 789-2530
FAX (606) 789-2506
<http://www.johnson.k12.ky.us>

BOB HUTCHISON, Chairman
MELVIN VANHOOSE, Vice Chairman

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Eagles,

As we get ready to begin another week, I want to send out a huge thank you to our students, staff, families, and entire school community for your continued focus and efforts in getting our students back to face-to-face instruction and learning. Undoubtedly, this is a very difficult time for each and every one of us. Throughout the uncertainties and hardships, everyone is working so hard to ensure the safest possible school environment, and I'm proud to say that Monday will be our 23rd day of school this year!

As you are likely aware, legislation was passed at the end of last week that directly impacts all schools in the state of Kentucky. Some state requirements with masking have changed that go into effect as of Wednesday this week (9/15/21), and now safety decisions regarding COVID-19 fall to local decision making.

Based on the current situation within our Johnson County Community, and in order to continue to provide the safest possible environment for every person in our school buildings, **masking will continue to be required inside all buildings and on all school buses of the Johnson County School System at all times.** This will include students, staff, and any visitors who enter our schools. We will continue to monitor numbers using our [Johnson County COVID Dashboard](#) that includes both school and community data. During this time, we will also be meeting with local medical professionals and school personnel to take a close look at the data included in our dashboard to make sure all pertinent information is included that helps us drive decisions concerning mitigation strategies used within our schools. We will reevaluate our decision for masking one week after our Fall Break, which is October 1-8. I will continue to update you as any changes occur. I also want to remind you that we are continuing to update our [Safe Return to In Person Learning Plan](#).

As you know, we have had several members of our school family impacted by COVID. Some have recovered, some are still fighting, and others have lost this battle. Throughout the next days and weeks, I do ask that we all keep each and every one of these Eagles and their families in our thoughts and prayers. I also ask that you continue to remain patient and supportive while offering grace as I make decisions going forward. I hope you know that I value each of you, and I am honored to lead this outstanding school district as we continue to battle the tough times that lie ahead. I look forward to a wonderful week with each of you.

Sincerely,

Thom Cochran