



# JEFFERSON COUNTY R-VII SCHOOL DISTRICT

1250 Dooling Hollow Road  
Festus, MO 63028

Phone: (636) 937-7940 Fax: (636) 937-9189

Website: [www.jr7.k12.mo.us](http://www.jr7.k12.mo.us)

**Clint D. Johnston, Superintendent of Schools**

Email: [johnstonc@jr7.k12.mo.us](mailto:johnstonc@jr7.k12.mo.us)



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## Jefferson High School

Principal: David Haug  
7 Blue Jay Way  
Festus, MO 63028  
(636) 933-6900  
[haugd@jr7.k12.mo.us](mailto:haugd@jr7.k12.mo.us)

## Danby-Rush Tower Middle

Principal: Cindy Holdinghausen  
1250 Dooling Hollow Road  
Festus, MO 63028  
(636) 937-9188  
[holdinghausen@jr7.k12.mo.us](mailto:holdinghausen@jr7.k12.mo.us)

## Telegraph Intermediate

Principal: Dalania Watson  
1265 Dooling Hollow Road  
Festus, MO 63028  
(636) 937-6530  
[watsond@jr7.k12.mo.us](mailto:watsond@jr7.k12.mo.us)

## Plattin Primary

Principal: Tina Basler  
2400 R-7 School Road  
Festus, MO 63028  
(636) 937-7170  
[baslert@jr7.k12.mo.us](mailto:baslert@jr7.k12.mo.us)

## Board of Education

Karen Koenig, President  
Jimmy Jackson, Vice President  
Mike Frisk  
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December 16, 2021

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

The Jefferson R-VII School District continues to review information involving a Missouri court case from Cole County. This summary judgment issued by Judge Daniel R. Green on November 22, 2021, involves the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and the role of this organization dealing with mitigation measures for COVID-19. Since this action, the District has been working to establish updated plans involving COVID-19 protocols. The District has reviewed board policy, guidance provided by the Missouri School Board Association (MSBA), and letters we have received from the Attorney General to determine the next steps in administering COVID-19 guidelines and protocols.

Effective December 15, 2021, the Jefferson R-VII School District will use Board Policy EBB - District Communicable Disease (as we have done in the past for communicable diseases) for all school procedures involving COVID-19. Our communicable disease policy recognizes the District's "responsibility to protect the health of students and employees from the risks posed by communicable diseases."

The Board of Education has approved updates to the guidelines and protocols for the Jefferson R-VII District to include the following:

- 1) Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 will be excluded from school for a period of ten days as outlined by CDC Guidelines.
- 2) Students and staff exposed to COVID-19 during the in-school setting will remain in school and monitored for symptoms.
- 3) Students and staff exposed to COVID-19 during out-of-school, household exposures will be excluded from school for 14 days as outlined by CDC guidance.
- 4) The District will no longer be contact tracing or issuing Jefferson County Health Department quarantines for exposures that occur at school.
- 5) Face masks will be "recommended/encouraged but not required" for all risk levels (Green, Yellow, Orange, and Red).

Because we are all aware that at any time, when outside in the public, anyone could be exposed to someone who has COVID-19, we encourage you to closely monitor those in your household for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 daily and ask that you



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keep your child home from school if he / she develops any symptoms. If your child will be absent due to the development of symptoms, please call your child's school to report the absence and then ask to speak to the nurse's office staff in order to determine a return-to-school date. The COVID-19 signs and symptoms that you should monitor are:

- fever/chills
- shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- loss of taste or smell
- congestion/runny nose
- nausea/vomiting
- cough
- diarrhea
- headache
- sore throat
- fatigue or muscle/body aches

The District will continue to utilize mitigation strategies outlined within the board-approved COVID-19 Guidelines and Protocols to address the safety, health, and welfare of students and staff. Please see the [Jefferson R-VII District website](#) for more information regarding the COVID-19 mitigation measures.

If you would like to be made aware of the COVID-19 numbers in your child's school, please visit our District dashboard at the [Jefferson R-VII School District Dashboard](#).

Sincerely,

Clint D. Johnston  
Superintendent of Schools