



USD 330 Mission Valley School District

Home of the Vikings

511 East 2nd Avenue, Box 158

Eskridge, KS 66423

William J. Clark--Superintendent/Director Of Special Services

bclark@mv330.org

866.557.6686

www.mv330.org

January 6, 2022

Viking Family,

First of all I would like to thank you for your support and cooperation that you have given to USD 330 Mission Valley from the very beginning of the pandemic back in March 2020. Yes, school administration have had conversations with parents who were frustrated at the COVID situation and the policies/procedures that the district has implemented or are required to follow, however, everyone we have talked to has been respectful and understanding.....for that, the administration of Mission Valley says THANK YOU!

As you know the cases of COVID have reached an all time high across the United States and we are beginning to see an increase in cases within USD 330 Mission Valley as well. Our Test-to-Stay policy allows students & staff identified as close contacts (asymptomatic) to be able to attend school/work during the time of their quarantine. The additional time that it takes for staff to conduct contact tracing, contact parents, and to test close contacts places a tremendous amount of burden on them as they are also responsible for their other daily duties.

In order for us to continue utilizing the Test-To-Stay we ask that parents not send their child to school to be tested unless it has been cleared by school administration. We have had several students who have been identified as close contacts due to exposure outside of school, at home or while visiting friends & relatives and then come to school expecting to be tested without notifying the school first. The district has forms that must be completed prior to testing and has specific procedures that it uses to do the testing.

Also, to help us test students in a more efficient manner and to make sure we are following our guidelines, students who are identified as close contacts while at school will be required to go home that day. Close contacts then will be given the opportunity to participate in the Test-to-Stay program at a later date designated by school administration or school nurse.

At this time there has not been any changes to the district's policy as it refers to the guidelines we are required to follow regarding close contacts and/or positive cases. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment have announced changes to quarantine/isolation requirements, however, until officially notified by the Wabaunsee County Health Department and/or changed by the USD 330 Board of Education, we will continue to follow the guidelines and

Jacob Durkes--President
Clinton Lambotte

Jon Deters

USD 330 Board of Education
Mistina Kraus

Jim Rudeen

Clipper Goodrich--Vice President
Tuff Stephenson

procedures that the district has been following since the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year.

In comparing the 21-22 school year to the 20-21 school year:

*During the 1st semester of the 21-22 school year, USD 330 Mission Valley had 55 positive cases of COVID-19.

*During the 1st semester of the 20-21 school year, USD 330 Mission Valley had 29 positive cases of COVID-19.

*During the 1st semester of the 21-22 school year, USD 330 Mission Valley had 229 individuals identified as close contacts.

*During the 1st semester of the 20-21 school year, USD 330 Mission Valley had 245 individuals identified as close contacts.

*During the 20-21 school year, USD 330 Mission Valley had a total of 51 positive cases of COVID-19, and had 358 individuals identified as close contacts.

In order to help keep USD 330 Mission Valley School open and operational we ask that students/staff who are showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or other possible contagious illnesses not come to school/work. To keep our schools open and operational we need to work together and take the necessary precautions to have a safe & healthy school.

Again, thank you for your continued support of USD 330 Mission Valley. Let's work together to have a fantastic 2nd semester and give our children/students the best opportunity we can to receive a face-to-face education and enjoy all the events and activities that public schools provide.

Sincerely,

William J. Clark

William J. Clark
Superintendent/Director of Special Services