



Herrin Community Unit School District No. 4

500 North 10th Street
Herrin, IL 62948
www.herrinschools.org

Sunday, February 6, 2022

Dear Herrin Unit 4 Families:

Judge Raylene Grischow of Sangamon County, Illinois issued a written ruling on Friday, February 4 on Governor Pritzker's executive orders and IDPH/ISBE requirements requiring mask mandates in schools, testing, and contact tracing. Judge Grischow issued a temporary restraining order (TRO) on the Governor's executive orders and IDPH/ISBE requirements as they apply to schools. This TRO is only temporary, and the State has asked for a "stay" of this TRO, which could occur as early as tomorrow. Additionally, this TRO has already been appealed by the Governor's Office to the Fourth Appellate Court of Illinois for a decision. That decision from the Appellate Court will come no later than February 17. We will keep you apprised as the fluid situation continues to evolve.

Regardless of this TRO and the outcome of this case, Federal Transportation guidelines still require masks to be worn while on school transportation.

I have worked with our school attorney to review the judge's decision and how this impacts Herrin CUSD 4 students and staff members. While the TRO states that masks are no longer required in schools, Herrin Unit 4 will follow a *masks recommended* policy for students and staff. Additionally, we will continue with all other layered mitigations in accordance with our Return to School Plan. Please remember that any "stay" or "appeal" may impact this mask recommendation.

Students who test positive for COVID-19 will still need to isolate. Anyone that is sick still needs to stay at home.

Thank you for your continued support of our students, teachers, and staff. There are still situations that we will need to address as this case continues to evolve.

Sincerely,

Nathaniel L. Wilson

Nathaniel L. Wilson
Superintendent
Herrin CUSD 4