

Parents/Guardians,

August 14, 2020

Thank you parents and students for a great first week of school at Pioneer Pleasant Vale Schools! It was so good to see everyone's smiling faces again and get to hear how everyone has been doing during their time away from school. We are so happy to have everyone back and look forward to a great year. Everyone has been very cooperative and patient with all the new things we have had to learn regarding Covid-19 and we really appreciate your continued understanding and support.

Earlier today, The Oklahoma State Department of Health updated the Covid-19 Alert System to reflect the most recent average of positive Covid-19 cases in our county. This alert system has color coded risk phases based on the number of positive cases in each county each week. Pioneer Pleasant Vale school policy is based off this policy.

Coming into this week, the number for Garfield County had fallen significantly from last week (19.23 to 11.73). However, the number has jumped back up this week to 24.57. Pioneer Pleasant Vale policy states that masks will be required for all students, staff, and visitors when the Covid-19 Alert System's number is greater than 25 for Garfield County. School children and college students have been returning to class across our state this week and we fear this number may continue to increase short term.

With only a .43 difference between Yellow and Orange color phases, in relation to safety protocols at Pioneer Pleasant Vale Schools, we believe it is in the best interest of our students and our staff to accelerate our Covid-19 Alert System Color to Orange for the coming week. Therefore, Pioneer Pleasant Vale students will be required to wear masks in the school buildings at all times for the week of August 17<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>. The exceptions will be for those who are unable to wear masks, when eating, when outside, when at recess or physical education, or when socially distanced.

Everything else will continue as normal as it did this week. Bus riders will still wear masks, and visitors will still be limited or restricted. We will continue to closely monitor this situation and keep you informed as much as possible. Again, thank you again for your patience, understanding, and continued support for our Pioneer Pleasant Vale Mustangs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school at 580-758-3282.

Sincerely,

Brent Koontz  
Superintendent  
Pioneer Pleasant Vale Schools