



February 22, 2022

Dear Madison families,

Our team met this morning to discuss the recent changes to the mask guidelines announced last week by the Indiana Department of Health (ISDH). As a district, we want to ensure we are doing all we can to continue to provide healthy learning environments for our youngest learners who are not vaccine eligible and our medically fragile students and staff.

As communicated last week, in accordance with the ISDH recommendation, masks will become optional for everyone on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, and social distancing and quarantine mandates are no longer required of schools. However, per federal guidelines, masks will continue to be required on buses.

ISDH continues to recommend that all staff and students who test positive for COVID-19 will follow the current isolation guidelines.

- Isolate for 5 days, return to school on day 6, mask at all times days 6-10
- PreK students and families will receive a separate letter outlining their return to school requirements.
 - Athletic and extracurricular participation will continue to follow the recommendations with a return to activities fully masked for days 6-10.

As has always been our practice, we ask that you:

- Please keep your child home from school if they are not feeling well.
 - A student must be fever-free, without fever-reducing medications for 24 hours.
- Report any student absence from school to the office or nurse as you have in the past.

We will continue to:

- Encourage you to report any positive COVID-19 case to the school nurse.
- Wipe down/sanitize student classroom areas.
- Ask staff who work directly with medically fragile students to continue to wear masks.
- To monitor all district absence data for cluster or outbreak situations, and if over a 10% threshold, contact the local health department for guidance. *There may be an instance where localized masking is recommended and requested in order to keep students in class.*
- Encourage vaccines for those eligible.

Things to look forward to:

- Visitors and volunteers will be welcome to visit our buildings after Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

Vaccine clinics:

The Jefferson County Health Department will be hosting vaccination clinics at every Madison school throughout the month of April. They will be offering all routine vaccinations, as well as, COVID vaccines

(students ages 5+), boosters (if eligible), and more. This is a great opportunity to get your child up to date on their required immunizations and protect them against vaccine-preventable diseases. Please reach out to your school nurse if you have questions regarding your child's vaccination status.

- Anderson Elementary - Friday, April 1, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.
- MJHS - Tuesday, April 5, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.
- Lydia Middleton Elementary- Thursday, April 7, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.
- Rykers' Ridge Elementary - Monday, April 11, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.
- MCHS - Wednesday, April 13, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.
- E.O. Muncie Jr/Sr High School - Wednesday, April 13, 2022 - 1:30 p.m.
- Deputy Elementary - Thursday, April, 14, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.

The [JCHD Consent Form](#) must be completed and signed by the parents/guardians of any student age 17 and under. The parent/guardian can sign in the patient signature block. If the form is complete, parents do NOT need to be present. If the form is incomplete, the student will not receive vaccines at school.

Separate letters for families with preschool-age students, as well as, medically fragile children will be sent home. These letters will outline, more specifically, things we will do for these students within our buildings each day.

We appreciate the efforts of everyone involved as we have navigated the last two years. As we progress through the next phase, we ask that everyone continues to monitor their student's health at home, if they are ill, keep them home, continue to encourage diligent personal hygiene, and wash hands often so that we can maintain healthy learning environments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeff Studebaker, Superintendent