

9.8.2021

Dear John Glenn Family,

After Governor Holcomb's new executive order effective on September 2nd, 2021, and action from the JGSC School Board this evening. I wanted to provide a COVID-update to everyone. These changes are specific to masking and close contact quarantining protocols. The new Governor's Order states that schools will no longer be required to send students home for close contact quarantining if everyone in the classroom, on the bus, etc. is properly wearing a mask.

Here are a few specifics:

- **Only COVID positive or symptomatic individuals will be required to isolate.**
- Schools with a mask requirement, like JGSC, will no longer have to quarantine students or staff if they are a close contact and have no symptoms.
 - Instead close contacts will be notified and asked to self-monitor symptoms for 14-days, but, again, **will no longer be sent home for quarantine time, as long as they remain asymptomatic.**
 - Some quarantining may still be required in areas where masks cannot be fully used like while eating lunch, etc.

The JGSC School Board ratified these new protocols this evening in a public board meeting.

The overall plans remain similar:

- Vaccinations are strongly encouraged but not required.
- **Mask usage required** in school buildings when 6ft social distance is not possible.
 - Masks remain required on school buses.
- Emphasized handwashing, good hygiene, and coughing sneezing into your shoulder.
- Continued systematic daily sanitation efforts.
- Improved indoor air quality as well as more outdoor learning time.
- Social distancing and cohort efforts remain.
- COVID-positive/symptomatic students/staff required to quarantine.
- **Close contacts are no longer required to quarantine when mask usage is in effect, as long as close contacts remain asymptomatic.**

We continue to believe the best place for our children during the day is at school participating in on-campus learning. Even though there are many differing opinions regarding the usage of masks. This new executive order from Governor Holcomb will prevent us from having to send any more students home for being close contacts. This is a very good opportunity for our students to remain in school.

Thank you for your continued support!

Yours in Education,

Christopher Winchell