

March 25, 2022

Dear WCUUSD Community,

Thank you for such a calm and respectful transition to our District schools being mask-optional. As we discussed, WCUUSD is following the **CDC Community Level [recommendations](#)** to inform our current decision making.

- **Washington County is again at a HIGH level.**
- **We will require universal indoor masking, including on buses, for the week of March 28- April 1. We will re-evaluate again once the CDC updates again next Friday.**
- **With the exception of olunteers and visitors are again asked to refrain from entering the building.**
- **Please be sure to discuss this with your children so everyone understands if we need to pivot again.**

We need to normalize masking in times of high viral activity, as we have seen this virus change multiple times and should assume we will continue to see changing levels of transmission within our community.

COVID-19 Community Levels are a new tool to help communities decide what prevention steps to take based on the latest data and are updated weekly. Levels can be low, medium, or high and are determined by looking at hospital beds being used, hospital admissions, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area. Take precautions to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 based on the COVID-19 Community Level in your area. **Currently, Washington County is at a HIGH level.**

| Low | Medium | High |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines● Get tested if you have symptoms | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● If you are at high risk for severe illness, talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need to wear a mask and take other precautions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Wear a mask indoors in public● Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines● Get tested if you have symptoms● Additional precautions may be needed for people at |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines ● Get tested if you have symptoms | high risk for severe illness |
| <p>People may choose to mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.</p> | | |

Our District illness policy is not changing at this time. Staff and students should monitor for [symptoms of COVID-19](#), regardless of vaccination status. If staff or students have any symptoms of COVID-19, they should stay home from school, and test for Covid. Everyone needs to be symptom-free for >24 hours prior to return to school. WCUUSD is still providing rapid antigen tests for students and staff as needed.

Please reach out to mmelekos@u32.org or at 802-229-0553 x 1317 with any questions or concerns.

We can't say it enough - we are all in this together. As a District, we greatly appreciate our community's support during this pandemic. Everyone's willingness to adhere to the ever-changing guidelines throughout the last few years has been inspiring and humbling. Our goal is to continue to be respectful of all our community members and to continue to work together to stay safe.

Thank you,

Maria Melekos, Covid-19 Coordinator
 Jennifer Miller-Arsenault, Interim Superintendent