BURKE COUNTY Public Schools

Igniting Learning For A Brighter Future

Thursday, July 15, 2021

Dear Burke County Public Schools Families,

We at Burke County Public Schools are looking forward to the start of the 2021-2022 school year on August 23, 2021. We know you may have many questions about how the start of the school year will look, with one of the biggest questions being: Will students be required to wear masks?

As you know, we are currently following COVID-19 recommendations and requirements found in the NC state publication entitled StrongSchools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12) to inform our decision making. We are anticipating further guidance and clarification from Governor Roy Cooper very soon. Throughout the previous school year and during our Summer Learning Camp months with in-person learning, we have followed requirements and guidance from state and local health officials.

The NC Toolkit is updated monthly with the most current updates reflecting the month of July. The July updates have been minimal and continue to require staff and students to wear masks and social distance. The NC Toolkit also gives specific steps to follow for close contact, quarantines and clusters. Right now, we will continue to follow the Toolkit's guidance to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment.

While we understand the desire to know what to expect as the opening date of school approaches, please know that as soon as we receive an update from Governor Cooper, we will update you.

Thank you for your support and patience as we continue to make a safe learning environment a priority for our Burke County Public Schools family.

Sincerely,
Burke County Public Schools

700 East Parker Road / PO Drawer 989 Morganton, NC 28680-0989
Phone: 828-439-4312 Fax: 828-439-4314 www.burke.k12.nc.us