

February 28, 2022

Mount Vernon Community School District Families, Staff Members, and Community Members:

The Centers for Disease Control have updated their guidance with regard to the COVID-19 pandemic. Here are changes in the district that you need to know regarding these guidelines:

- 1. As long as the spread and the impact of the virus is considered to be in the Low or Medium range as determined by the CDC, the CDC no longer recommends the universal wearing of masks in the school setting. Students and staff are still welcome to wear masks if they so choose, and they will be supported in that choice. Linn County is currently in the Medium range.**
- 2. As long as the spread and impact of the virus is considered to be in the Low or Medium range, masks are no longer required on any form of school transportation. Again, Linn County is currently in the Medium range.**
- 3. Visitors will be allowed in the schools during the school day beginning after spring break on March 21, 2022. The one exception to this will be the DARE Graduation at Mount Vernon Middle School that will be held on March 11th, as visitors will be allowed to that ceremony that takes place during the school day. If you wish to be considered for a visit to a school during the regular school day prior to March 21, 2022, please reach out to me and I will consider it.**
- 4. It is still the expectation that a student or staff member wears a mask if testing positive for COVID-19, and returning after quarantining for a period of five days. The wearing of a mask is expected for days 6-10 of the normal quarantine period. If you have any questions regarding this expectation, please reach out to one of our school nurses to discuss it further.**

Let's hope that we continue to see the positive trends regarding the impact of COVID-19 on our schools, and thanks again for your continued patience and understanding as we work through the pandemic.

Dr. B.