

Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2021

Dear Mapleton families,

We are committed to doing everything possible to keep our students and staff healthy and our classrooms open five days a week, for in-person learning. Our layers of protection continue to be guided by our community's health data and the recommendations of our public health partners. The letter from Tri-County Health Department detailing the newly released Public Health Order is available [here](#).

Mask mandate Will Help Keep Students mandate will help keep students in school – Last evening, the Tri-County Health Department issued a clearly worded Public Health Order for Adams, Arapahoe, and Douglas Counties beginning Monday, August 23, 2021. This health order reinstates mask requirements for PK-6th grade students and all staff who interact with these students when indoors, regardless of vaccination status. This new mandate applies to all children ages two to eleven years old and for anyone else who interacts with students in this age group. In classes where any student is younger than 12, everyone in the class must wear a mask regardless of age or vaccination status.

Per Federal regulations, anyone riding the bus must wear a facial covering regardless of age or vaccination status.

Vaccinations are important for those who are eligible - For students 12 and older, we encourage families to consider getting the vaccine. Students who are not yet fully vaccinated are strongly encouraged to wear a mask when indoors. Additionally, all staff members working with this age group, are required to either be fully vaccinated or wear a mask when indoors.

While our community's health data shows an increase in positive cases, we are also seeing a significant increase in our community's vaccination rates. Mapleton will continue to offer on-site vaccination clinics every month to make it easy and accessible for us to all continue to do our part to stay healthy and stay open.

Our layered approach continues to be extremely effective in preventing the spread of COVID-19 in our schools. From updated HVAC systems to classroom and hallway air filters, we carefully monitor ventilation in all school buildings. While at school, students have access to hand sanitizer and are frequently encouraged to wash their hands. Physical distancing is practiced to the greatest extent possible. We thank you for supporting our layers of protection by keeping your children home from school and activities when they are sick.

We will continue to offer in-school testing for all students and staff. As an additional layer of protection, everyone is encouraged to participate in COVID testing regardless of vaccination status every two weeks beginning in September. Test dates and consent forms will be available soon.

We will notify you if anyone in your child's class tests positive for COVID. We are no longer required to quarantine or "roll to remote" unless there is an "outbreak" with five or more individuals testing positive in a class, cohort, or small group. Please monitor your children for symptoms and keep them at home if they feel ill.

If your child tests positive for COVID, please notify your school. You will be asked to keep your child home and away from others for 10 days from the onset of symptoms or from the date of the positive test if not experiencing symptoms

Mapleton Online is an option for all students grades K-12. At Mapleton Online, students follow a regular school schedule and participate in live classroom sessions with expert online teachers. There are also opportunities for in-person activities and events within the parameters established in the Health Order. For more information or to enroll in Mapleton Online, call 303.853.1780.

Athletics, Performing Arts, and other activities will continue. With the new Public Health Order, masks are required for all indoor situations in both athletics and activities – for student-athletes when on the bench and for all spectators. Additionally, all wind and brass instruments will require bell covers. During outdoor athletics and activities, masks will not be required.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our schools. Together, we will successfully navigate the changing guidelines again this year!

Sincerely,

Charlotte Ciancio

Superintendent of School