

Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2021

Mapleton Families,

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Last school year, we reopened our school buildings and classrooms knowing that by combining thoughtful planning with well-implemented proactive measures, we could provide a learning environment where the rewards of attending school outweighed the risks.

As we welcomed our students back this past month, we continue to be successful in assuring the health, safety, and wellbeing of our students, staff, and community. We were hopeful that we would be able to enjoy more “post-pandemic” practices this school year, however, as we begin to see new and breakthrough cases in our community, we now need to reinstate some of what allowed us to be successful last year. Keeping our classrooms open while avoiding ‘rolling to remote’ is a priority for our schools.

We learned last year to avoid the “Three Cs” that include:

1. Crowded places with many people.
2. Close-contact settings, especially where people have close range conversations.
3. Confined and enclosed spaces with poor ventilation.

The risk is higher in places where these “Three Cs” overlap, such as school assemblies, school cafeterias, and other indoor gathering spaces.

In addition to increased physical distancing, we are fortunate to have quality air handling systems in our buildings and will continue to use additional air purifiers in each classroom and across the school environments. Proper handwashing, assuring the availability of hand sanitizer, and thorough cleaning protocols will also be practiced.

Your child’s school will begin reimplementing and revising strategies to help us maintain our engaging learning environments that may include changes such as regrouping students, adjusting schedules, or changing their lunchtime. We thank you for your flexibility and for talking to your child about the importance of wearing a mask, physically distancing, and washing their hands as we manage these minor adjustments.

We have enjoyed the opportunity to keep students in classrooms as much as possible, however we know COVID has a way of evolving in unpredictable and often undesirable ways. This year, consistent with the CDPHE and CDC guidance, if we experience an “outbreak” with five or more linked individuals in a class testing positive with COVID, that class will need to ‘roll to remote’ for up to 10 days. If your child participates in district sports or our district-wide performing arts program, the threshold for quarantining is only one person testing positive for COVID – requiring the entire team or group to quarantine for at

least 5 days. Our schools are prepared to move quickly and smoothly between the in-person setting to an intermittent online setting.

Additional ways we can all continue to do our part to keep Mapleton healthy

Masks - Thank you for following Tri-County's Public Health Order requiring masks in school settings. Please send your child to school with their own mask. Although we are currently able to provide some disposal masks, they may not fit as well as necessary and our supply is dwindling. **Thank you for helping us reduce both the cost and the waste by sending your child to school with their own mask.**

Covid screening and testing sites - CDPHE is providing all K-12 schools in Colorado with free and voluntary COVID-19 screening for the 2021-22 school year. The weekly rapid antigen testing will be available to all students and staff, regardless of vaccination status or presence of symptoms. If your child was exposed to COVID, a negative test after day 5 will allow them to return to school and practice. The tests will be provided by Mobile Health. If you would like your child to participate in this voluntary, routine COVID screening, please ask your school director for a link to the online consent form.

Vaccination clinics - We strongly encourage the COVID vaccines for all eligible employees and students. 9 Health is hosting a series of vaccination clinics at the Skyview Campus this year. To view the schedule and reserve your vaccine, [visit our webpage](#). For additional vaccination information, visit www.covid19.colorado.gov

Thank you,

Charlotte Ciancio

Superintendent of Schools