



December 31, 2021

Dear MCAS Families:

I hope you have had a restful winter break!

This week, Indiana announced that LaPorte County's metrics place us at an Orange status for COVID (with a "Red" advisory level). We know that COVID cases locally and across the state are rising, however, and our county may be at a full Red status next week.

**I would like to remind all families that there is no change to our schedule or operations; all schools will be open for in-person learning when we return on Monday, January 3.**

In addition, we are aware that the CDC has released new guidance on isolation and quarantine. At this time, we are continuing to follow our COVID Response Plan and are requiring the 10-day isolation/quarantine period for positive cases and close contacts. Any proposed changes to this will be discussed at a future school board meeting.

I urge all staff and families to help us stem the spread of COVID in our schools by taking some simple steps:

1. **Please screen for COVID symptoms each morning.** A [revised handout for parents](#) is here. Please do not send your child to school if they are exhibiting any of these symptoms!
2. **Make sure that your child is wearing a properly fitting face mask.** This means a mask that fits snugly over the mouth and nose with no gaps or puckers at the side. (Our students are doing a great job wearing masks – and with the highly spreadable Omicron variant, mask-wearing is more important than ever.)
3. **Get vaccinated and boosted!** Everyone in your household age 5 and up should receive 2 doses of vaccine, and anyone age 16 and over should receive the booster, as well. This is key to protecting the health of our students, staff, and the broader community.

Our COVID-19 Response Plan, resources, and additional information are available at <http://educateMC.net/covid>.

We look forward to seeing all of our students and staff back at school on Monday. Let's finish our school year strong!

Dr. Barbara Eason-Watkins  
Superintendent