



GREENFIELD-CENTRAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

September 21, 2021

Greenfield-Central Parents,

Greenfield-Central Community School Corporation has diligently monitored the number of positive COVID-19 cases and student exclusions throughout the current school year (July 29th through September 18th, 2021). The number of positive cases in our school corporation has recently escalated, and therefore, the number of healthy students who are being excluded from school has also increased. This reality has created a number of challenges that have negatively impacted our school environment.

We believe that onsite education is the best option for a vast majority of our PreK-12 students. Keeping students in our schools every day enables our educators to maximize student learning. Therefore, the Greenfield-Central School Board voted last night to implement a mask mandate for all students and staff beginning on Monday, September 27, 2021. The change will remain in effect until further action is taken by the school board.

In light of recent guidance from the CDCs and the parameters promoted by Governor Holcomb and the Indiana Department of Health, **contact tracing will no longer exclude students from school attendance, provided all students and staff regularly wear masks throughout the school day.** G-C students will be required to wear a mask at all times when 6' of social distancing is not possible, which includes most settings in the school day. Please note that masks may be removed when individuals are eating, at recess, participating in band or choir, and during physical education classes that include strenuous activity. If a student is identified as a close contact during a time when masks are not worn, such as the scenarios listed above, the student will be excluded from school for a designated period of time.

If a student is identified as a close contact during a time when masks are regularly worn, such as the typical classroom environment, parents will continue to be notified as a courtesy. However, **students will not be excluded from the school setting simply for being a close contact.** Parents are encouraged to monitor their children for symptoms on a daily basis, and to monitor more closely if their child has been identified as a close contact.

This adjustment in practice will keep hundreds of G-C students in our schools each week, and this is the primary goal of the change. We recognize that this decision will bring a sense of relief to some families and create a level of anxiety for others. Ultimately, this modification will allow us to keep more students in school receiving face-to-face instruction from our teachers each day, thus optimizing student learning. We ask for your support and patience as we implement these adjustments in the next few weeks.

Yours in Education,

Dr. Harold E. Olin

Learning for All • All For Learning

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