



May 17, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Last week, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) released new guidance for mask wearing, specifically for fully vaccinated individuals. On Friday, May 14, Governor Whitmer announced several changes in the requirements for mask wearing in the state of Michigan.

The Berrien County Health Department received guidance from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) about mask wearing specifically for schools, based on current CDC guidance. As of today, the CDC's guidance for schools remains unchanged. The CDC noted that some school staff and many students remain unvaccinated. Students, staff, and school administrators will be required to continue following the CDC's school guidance until more school staff and students are fully vaccinated.

All other mitigation strategies remain in place. These strategies include wearing a face mask, social distancing, healthy hand hygiene practices, athletic testing, cohorting, and daily symptom checks by students and staff. These strategies will remain in place through the end of the school year.

The Berrien County Health Department closely monitors guidance from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Should there be any changes in COVID-19 health and safety guidance for schools, parents, and staff will be notified in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Eichberg". The signature is written in a cursive style.

David Eichberg, Superintendent