

April 27, 2021

Dear FCPS families:

During our meeting with the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department this morning, we learned that the current 7-day average of new cases in Fayette County is 40, keeping us in orange on the FCPS In-Person Learning Matrix. That represents a slight increase over last week, but would not warrant any changes to our mode of instruction.

Unfortunately, we also saw the numbers of positive COVID-19 cases among students and staff rise from 42 two weeks ago to 48 in the past week. The number of individuals placed into quarantine due to possible exposure went from 488 to 650 during that same time period.

Health Department and FCPS officials meet daily to review cases and epidemiologists are constantly monitoring what's happening in our schools to see if there are any patterns. Thankfully, we have had very few instances of transmission in our schools. Health experts assure us that since cases are sprinkled throughout 22 buildings districtwide, it reflects the fact that COVID-19 remains a community concern.

With only 15 school days remaining, we look forward to finishing the school year in-person and celebrating our Class of 2021 in Rupp Arena.

Like many of you, we have closely followed announcements from the governor yesterday and Centers for Disease Control today updating their guidance about the use of masks outdoors. We discussed the possible implications of these changes with our partners at the Health Department this morning, but will wait for additional information from the Kentucky Department of Education before determining next steps for our organization. All existing mask protocols will continue for the time being.

The past year has certainly taught us all a lot about flexibility! Thank you once again for all you do every day to make sure our students have every opportunity to succeed!

Sincerely,

Marlene Helm,
acting superintendent
Fayette County Public Schools