

March 23, 2021

Dear Fayette County Public Schools Families:

Your safe choices made it possible for us to return to campus, and we are grateful for the opportunity to be back in person with students whose families chose that option.

When you consider that Fayette County spent the whole month of January in purple – hitting a high of 264 average daily cases – our progress is truly remarkable. At 34, today's 7-day average of new cases is just on the edge of yellow – a level our community has not seen in nearly nine months.

Now that our students are back in person, we need your help again. With just three days left before spring break, we hope everyone continues to practice the healthy habits that have helped reduce COVID-19 infections. These precautions include avoiding crowds and group gatherings whenever possible, ordering take out, socializing outdoors, wearing masks, and washing hands frequently.

If you are planning a staycation, spring break would also be a great time to make arrangements to be vaccinated. All members of the Fayette County community, 16 years of age and older, are encouraged to sign up to receive the free, safe, vaccine at <https://ukhealthcare.uky.edu/covid-19/vaccine>. Those 18 or older can also sign up at www.lfchd.org/vaccine. Free rides to COVID-19 vaccination clinics are available through Federated Transportation Services of the Bluegrass. Please call 1-888-848-0989 in advance to schedule a ride.

Before returning to campus after spring break, please review the Family Assurance of Student Health document attached to this email and be especially thoughtful in assessing your child's possible symptoms before sending them to school.

Although we have not had any spread of the virus at schools, we have received reports of students contracting COVID-19 from sleepovers, parties, and traveling youth activities. Those individual weekend decisions have then forced other students into quarantine. It took all of us to get back on campus and it will take all of us to keep our schools open.

This has been a school year like none other. We hope that our families have an enjoyable spring break and look forward to seeing everyone healthy and back on campus April 5!

Sincerely,

Marlene Helm

Fayette County Public Schools

Family Assurance of Student Health Agreement

We all play a role in protecting the health, safety, and well-being of our students, staff and families. One of the most important things we can do to prevent the potential spread of COVID-19 is to stay home when we are sick or have been exposed to someone who is sick.

Before sending your child to campus for in-person learning, please sign and return this form showing that you agree to the following:

1. I will NOT send my child to school until they are released from quarantine by the health department if:

- My child has been in close physical contact (6 feet or closer for at least 15 minutes) with a person who is known to have COVID-19.
- Anyone in our household tests positive COVID-19.
- My child has traveled out of the country.

2. I will check my child each day for the following known symptoms of COVID-19 and will NOT send my child to school if they are experiencing:

- Fever (temperature of 100.4°F or greater) or chills Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain New onset of severe headache

3. If my child is tested for COVID-19 for any reason, I will not send them to school until I receive their results. If they test positive, I will NOT send them to school until cleared to do so by a medical professional. I understand I am required to report a positive test result to FCPS within 24 hours of receiving the results.

4. If my child meets any of the conditions above or is exhibiting any of the symptoms of COVID-19, I will notify the school of my child's absence.

5. If my child develops any symptoms of COVID-19 during the school day, I agree that I, or my designee, will pick up my child as soon as possible.

Student Name: _____

School: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

