



CANTON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



www.cantonlocal.org



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@Cantonlocalschool



Brett Yeagley | Superintendent

September 1, 2021

Dear Canton Local Families,

The Canton Local School District has experienced 26 positive cases of COVID, resulting in 196 students being quarantined from school and extracurriculars. **Therefore, as of Tuesday, September 7, we are implementing a mandatory mask policy in all of our buildings.** Masks will be required inside all buildings and on school buses. Students and staff will be permitted to have mask breaks, but only if they are physically distanced six feet from other people. Masks will not be required while outside of the buildings.

We strongly recommend that all students begin wearing masks immediately, but they are not mandated to wear them until Tuesday, September 7. Staff will be required to wear a mask beginning Thursday, September 2.

We know that this policy change may cause concern. This change is being made so that we can keep students and staff in school. Based on the current numbers of positive cases and those in quarantine, we feel that we cannot provide a proper education to our students without making this change. We will monitor our Canton Local data and evaluate the mask mandate on Thursday, September 30.

As positive cases are reported, we will continue to communicate with families. Families will be called if their child has been identified as a close contact. However, with a mask mandate in place, students who are correctly wearing a mask and are symptom-free will be allowed to remain in school (not quarantined).

Families of children that were in a shared classroom space with a positive case, but not identified as a close contact, will be given a letter explaining a case was in proximity to their child. Active positive cases will be reported on the COVID dashboard on our Canton Local website.

We continue to ask that you perform home health checks and not send your child to school if they are experiencing any symptoms of COVID. Canton Local will continue to work hard to provide your child with the best education possible. We know that this policy change will not be popular with everyone; however, we feel it is essential to keep our students and staff in our school buildings.

A Frequently Asked Questions information sheet is attached here and available on the Canton Local website. Please reach out to your building administrators or me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Brett Yeagley
Superintendent