



BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

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1/2/22

Dear Parents/ Guardians of BCCS K-2 Students, On behalf of the BCCS Faculty and Staff, Happy New Year! I am sending out this brief notice to update families on the current COVID response plans for area schools.

While the K-6 mask mandate has been lifted, due to an abundance of caution, BCCS students and staff are encouraged to wear masks during school hours. While **not required**, it is **recommended** that students and staff wear masks during all school events at this time. There will be times when masks are required to attend school, yet those will be on an individual basis.

As many of you are aware, on 12/27 the CDC came out with [new isolation and quarantine guidelines for the general public](#). Then earlier this week there seemed to be contradictory press releases from KCHD and MDHHS. In particular, the MDHHS press release indicated the state was not going to follow the CDC guidelines at this time. As of this morning, area school officials received information from the county officials clarifying the department's position for schools.

At this time, the [MDHHS Update](#) indicates the new CDC guidance is in effect for the general public, yet **not for** k-12, early childhood and congregate settings. Therefore there is no change in the school setting at this time. Schools are to follow the isolation and quarantine protocols posted in the latest [KCHD Toolkit](#). We are told there will likely be another update for schools in the next week.

Please know we recognize the COVID information from federal, state and local agencies has been difficult to track and fully understand. All recognize this continues to be a fluid situation, and we will continue to share updates as received. We will also make decisions to do what is best for the BCCS educational community.

Please feel free to contact me or the school office with any questions and let's look forward to a great start in 2022.

W/ Care,

Mark Kasmer
CAO BCCS