

Montrose Community Schools Office of the Superintendent

Dear Montrose Families,

We are very sorry to inform you that, once again, we will need to change direction regarding our current practice of not requiring students in grades K-5 to wear masks while in the classroom - a practice that has been in place since school began on September 8.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Director Robert Gordon has issued an Emergency Order under MCL 333.2253 restricting gathering sizes, requiring face coverings in public spaces, and places limitations on bars and other venues. This order requires the wearing of masks at schools for all grades, except for in Michigan Economic Recovery Council Region 6. To read more about order, please click on this link: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/coronavirus/MDHHS_epidemic_order_-_Gatherings_masks_bars_sports_-_FINAL_704287_7.pdf

In addition, we also received notice from the Genesee County Health Department that it is the department's position that "all stipulations of the Executive Orders in force at the time of the Supreme Court ruling remain in effect until 21 days following the decision. All Genesee County residents, businesses and schools should continue the mask-wearing, social distancing, gathering size limitations and other directives of the Executive Orders designed to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community."

The notice goes on to state: "The Genesee County Board of Commissioners, Genesee County Board of Health and the Genesee County Health Department are closely monitoring developments to understand the next steps in the state-wide approach to controlling this pandemic. If determined necessary, Health Officer John McKellar will issue local emergency public health orders to address expiring State epidemic control mandates."

Until further notice students in grades K-5 will now be required to wear their masks the entire school day instead of just on buses, in hallways and common areas and while moving from place to place as they have since the start of school.

Please know that the number one priority of Montrose Community Schools is the students and families of our community. We will comply with the current order issued by the MDHHS and follow the guidance of the Genesee County Health Department as well as continue to consult with our legal counsel regarding these matters. If there are any changes, please know that we will communicate any updates with our parents as soon as we receive them.

We appreciate your flexibility as we continue to navigate through these unprecedented times.



Linden A. Moore, Ph.D.
Montrose Community Schools