



# Jackson Local Schools

*Striving for Excellence*



**October 26, 2021**

## **Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers,**

The Jackson Local School District administrative team has evaluated new guidance from the Ohio Department of Health after a conference call with ODH Director Dr. Bruce Vanderhoff. This new guidance allows for optional pathways for students to continue in-person learning **REGARDLESS** of vaccination and mask status. Beginning Wednesday, October 27 masks are optional for students and staff in our buildings. A CDC order requiring masks on school-provided transportation remains in effect.

The most effective way to continue in-person instruction is to wear a mask and receive a COVID-19 vaccine for those students who are eligible (12 years and older). We encourage you to read the attached document in its entirety to have a greater understanding of these new “Mask to Stay / Test to Play” guidelines. You can find this document and read [Questions & Answers below the document right here](#).

It is important to remember these guidelines are exclusively for classroom and school-related activities. They do not apply to social gatherings outside of school or positive cases in a family setting.

These guidelines are being adopted after a pilot program among school districts in Warren County. That program showed a very low in-school transmission rate. Additionally, Dr. Bruce Vanderhoff said experiences shared by local health departments point toward a low number of direct contacts that convert to cases within school settings.

Any students or staff members identified as a close contact of an in-school positive case and who choose not to follow these guidelines must quarantine for 14 days.

Thank you for your support of the Jackson Local School District and thank you for your understanding in this fluid situation.

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Chris DiLoreto'.

**Chris DiLoreto  
Superintendent**