



Akron Central School District

In Pursuit of Excellence

*Patrick D. McCabe
Superintendent of Schools*

August 30, 2021

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Members of the Akron Community:

As you may have heard, late Friday afternoon the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) issued a directive to schools across New York that stated, “*any person over the age of 2 (including all students, personnel, teachers, administrators, contractors, and visitors) must wear masks at all times indoors in P-12 school buildings, regardless of vaccination status*”. After this directive was issued, several other statewide agencies also weighed in, offering additional clarification and interpretation of this directive.

In the end, our plans for bringing our students back to school on September 7, 2021 are largely unchanged. Students will attend classes every day; we will establish and follow safety protocols to minimize the risk of the COVID-19 virus spreading in our schools; and we will continually monitor and adjust our protocols based on the information and guidance, both in our community and in the county, that is available to us.

Please click this link to view the [Akron Central School District COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan](#). For your convenience, I provided a brief overview of some of the information that can be found in the plan. However, I encourage you to read it in its entirety.

Inside School Buildings:

- Masks must be worn by vaccinated and unvaccinated staff and students whenever inside of buildings or on a school bus.
- “Mask breaks” will again be allowed throughout the school day and at the discretion of the teacher.
- Masks may be removed for eating and drinking. Three feet social distancing will be maintained to the extent practicable.

Bus Travel:

- Masks will be worn on buses by both vaccinated and unvaccinated students and staff.

Outside on School Property:

- Masks are not required to be worn outside while on school property by either vaccinated or unvaccinated students and staff.

Safety Protocols:

- The 3-foot social distancing guidance will be followed whenever practicable; however, small group instruction and students working together in groups will be allowed.
- All other safety protocols (frequent cleaning and disinfecting of high touch surfaces, availability of hand sanitizer, deep cleaning of classrooms after hours, etc.) will continue as currently in place.
- Vaccinated individuals will not be subject to quarantine through contact tracing so long as they are not tested positive for COVID-19.

As I stated in my previous letter, throughout this pandemic we have made it our top priority to get our students back to school safely, in-person, every day. We are grateful for the support and trust you have shown us during these difficult times. We will continue to strive to provide the best possible educational opportunities for our students and demonstrate the care and encouragement that you expect. We look forward to welcoming them back on September 7.

Sincerely,

Patrick D. McCabe
Superintendent of Schools

*47 Bloomingdale Avenue, Akron, NY 14001
Phone: 716-542-5010 Fax: 716-542-5018*