



Good afternoon,

I hope everyone had a safe, healthy and happy Labor Day weekend. As we reflect on August and the beginning of the school year, we have much to be thankful for: our kids are back in school five days a week, receiving great instruction from our staff; our athletic seasons are in full swing; the band is hard at work and performing for our fans; and an upcoming musical is being cast. In short, we are back!

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has made the start to the 2021-2022 school year possible. Wooster City School District staff and educators have all been incredible, navigating the pandemic while keeping their focus on student success. Our students have shown terrific resilience and have been working diligently, excited to be back in school with their friends and teachers. We also appreciate the support of our Wooster parents/guardians who have been so understanding as we implement our COVID plan and follow quarantining requirements. I am proud of our district and community!

Unfortunately, I do not anticipate COVID will decrease in the near future as the Delta variant continues to make a major impact in Ohio. Therefore, as we transition into the fall months, I wanted to remind each of you of our COVID plan, the rationale for that plan and provide some clarification regarding quarantining.

As you know, we are currently requiring masking in grades K-12, and for adults when students are present. We continue sanitizing surfaces more frequently and we are maintaining a distance of three feet when possible, but not at the impact of instructional strategies. Due to the current quarantine requirements in Ohio, these protocols have greatly reduced the number of students temporarily learning in a remote environment.

I recognize that quarantining can be frustrating, and the last thing a parent wants to hear is that their child will be learning from a distance for an extended period while they are feeling well. At some point, the Ohio Department of Health quarantine requirements may change, but for now, we will continue to follow current protocols.

I am attaching some additional information you may find helpful from the Ohio Department of Health regarding their reasons for quarantines and the authority to do so.



If your child is quarantined, it is their responsibility to stay up to date on their schoolwork to the best of their ability. Our teachers will send information to them, with the expectation students complete as much work as possible at home. Please remember that if your child is quarantined, they may return to normal classroom and extracurricular activities:

- After 10 days following exposure without testing, should no COVID-19 symptoms develop, **OR**
- After 7 days following exposure IF a **negative PCR** test result is received (test must occur on day 5 or later)

Lastly, I know the pandemic continues to be challenging and can lead to many strong emotions regarding how schools are asked to handle COVID protocols. I can assure you that the one thing we all have in common is wanting the best for our students, including their continued presence in our buildings.

In summary, I encourage all to continue to be gracious and kind as we navigate these unprecedented times as a community. Working together is the best course of action to help alleviate further disruption to our educational environment.

I feel very fortunate to be leading this school district and to have my family be a member of this community. I thank you for your continued care and support.

Gabe Tudor, Superintendent  
Wooster City Schools