

11920 South Saginaw Grand Blanc, MI 48439

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Hello Bobcat Families!

The district recently received updated guidance from the Genesee County Health Department (GCHD) which recommends indoor masking for all Genesee County residents, including in schools. They are urging all of our county residents to voluntarily comply with this new directive.

The Delta variant of COVID-19 continues to show signs of increased transmission in our state. At this time, Genesee county is labeled as "Moderate." However, if trends continue, we will soon follow neighboring counties into the "Substantial" category, making precautions necessary to prevent community spread once again. Grand Blanc Community Schools will continue to follow our current mitigation strategies, including increased sanitizing, symptom monitoring and social distancing where possible. This includes any required practices outlined in the Genesee County Health Department's COVID-19 School Tool Kit. We recommend that all students and staff follow the Genesee County Health Department's updated guidance and voluntarily comply with the new indoor masking directive. Please continue to keep your children home if they are showing any signs of COVID-19 symptoms.

To our knowledge, our K-8 Summer Semester program with over 700+ students has, so far, had no transmission incidents or positive cases using current mitigation practices. For several weeks, this has included giving families the choice to have their children wear masks or not. At this time, Grand Blanc Community Schools plans to continue to leave that choice with our families when the regular school year begins on August 30th.

As superintendent, I meet weekly with the Chief Medical Officer at GCHD. We are constantly monitoring our local situation in regards to COVID-19. Please understand that if the Delta variant intensifies the situation locally, the health department may change their directive, and we would reevaluate our mitigation measures, including mask use, as well.

Bobcat Virtual Learning is still available as an online option to your student in the event that you are not comfortable with this updated guidance. Visit <u>www.bobcatvirtual.org</u> for more information. You can elect that choice in online registration, available at <u>www.gbcs.org</u>. Please complete online registration for all your students ASAP if you haven't already.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding in this matter. We will communicate as soon as possible if any changes become necessary prior to students returning on August 30th.

Sincerely,

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Dr. Trevor Alward Superintendent Grand Blanc Community Schools

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