



# JENNINGS COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION

## OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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February 18, 2022,

Dear JCSC Families,

Yesterday we received some great news from the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH). The IDOH released guidance that we are no longer required to quarantine students or contact trace COVID cases or require a doctor's note to return to school regardless of vaccination status or whether we require masks. The IDOH cites declining cases statewide and making a transition in the management of the Pandemic due to vaccine availability, etc. In JCSC, we have also seen a drastic decline in COVID cases and our staffing issues have greatly improved as well.

**Therefore, beginning Tuesday, February 22, 2022, masks will be optional in the JCSC schools in all locations. Students will still be required to wear masks on buses due to Federal Transportation guidelines.** TSA has [extended](#) the face mask requirement for all transportation networks, including public transportation, through March 18, 2022. When this regulation is lifted, we will do the same in JCSC.

Thank you for your patience as we have navigated the Pandemic over the last two years. I know it has been difficult and challenged us on many levels. This sign from the IDOH and the CDC is encouraging and seems to indicate that we are emerging from this public health crisis. Once again, we are proving in Jennings County that we are stronger together!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Teresa Brown

### **NEW FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH: Changes in COVID-19 School Guidance**

The Indiana Department of Health announced changes in COVID-19 guidance for K-12 schools based on declining cases statewide. The following changes will become effective Wednesday, February 23:

- Schools no longer will be required to conduct contact tracing or report positive cases to IDOH.
- Schools no longer will need to quarantine students who are exposed to a positive COVID-19 case, regardless of vaccination status or whether the school requires masks.
- Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 should isolate for five days and may return on Day 6 if they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication so long as symptoms are improving, according to [guidance](#) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Individuals should wear a mask through Day 10 any time they are around others inside their homes or in public.

**Stronger Together**