



Kinnikinnick Families,

On August 4, 2021 Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker announced masks will be required for students, teachers and staff at pre-kindergarten-12th grade schools. The new measure is part of the state's ongoing effort to combat a new surge as the Delta variant rapidly spreads.

The mask requirement is inclusive of youth sports and activities, with masks now required for all indoor extracurriculars and sports. In line with CDC guidance, masks are not required for activities outdoors where transmission risks and rates are lower.

We expect to continue to receive updated guidance throughout the school year. Our 2021-22 Kinnikinnick priority is: **The safety, well-being and care of our students and staff while providing a first class education AND attempting to move more closely to something that resembles what we remember as 'normal school.'**

While we acknowledge the conflicting community views, please know we will be deliberate in our approach and our planning for a successful 2021-22 school year with a focus on student learning and engagement, as well as maintaining a high level of safety for students and staff.

Yes, we will:	And, we will:
<p>Reinstate/Use of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Extracurriculars/Performances*● Lunchroom, Libraries, Gymnasiums & Fine Arts classrooms*● Transportation at full capacity● RMS Zero Hour● Playgrounds● Classroom spaces for instructional use● Kids Care offered during breaks and days off;● And remove temp checks. <p><small>*Adjustments to scheduling, group size, mitigation strategies, etc. may be necessary</small></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Wear masks indoors and on the bus● Physical Distance● Promote Hand and Respiratory Hygiene● Clean and disinfect● Monitor Illnesses● Utilize contact tracing for quarantine and isolation● Offer (when available) COVID testing at school only with parental consent

Some important reminders for this school year for Grades PK-8:

- First day of student attendance is Wednesday, September 1. The school calendar and school supply lists are posted on our website, www.kinn131.org
- School offices reopen August 16, 2021.
- Bus route postcards will be mailed the week of August 16th.
- Parent Transport:
 - Students may not be dropped off earlier. Parents with multiple students, please drop at the LW/SC campus first.
 - AM Drop off time:
 - LW, SC, KS 8:00-8:10 AM,
 - RMS 8:45-9:00 AM
 - PM Pick up time:
 - LW, SC, KS 2:25
 - RMS 3:20
- Orientations will be virtual. Times to be announced.
- Join us for the Back to School Extravaganza on August 30th. More details to come!
- Registration fees are now due. Payments can be made through our website.
- Lunch will again be free for all students as part of the Federal Lunch Program. Milk for students who bring lunch to school is not free.
- The Dress Code policy in the student handbook has been updated on the website.
- More communications will be coming out the week of August 16th.

Some other items to note for Grades 6-8:

- Clear backpacks at RMS are recommended for safety purposes, but not required.
- RMS PE uniforms are not needed.

Thank you again for your patience as we continue to navigate this pandemic. We can't wait to meet our students!

Sincerely,

Keli Freedlund
Superintendent