



DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

June 24, 2021

Dear Dexter Community Schools Parents, Students, and Staff,

It is so exciting and refreshing to see kids around the DCS campus and town laughing and having fun during the Dread Strong Summer. After a long year, this summer provides us all with a chance to reconnect and recharge. Thank you for your continued support throughout this school year. Below are a few updates and important pieces of information:

Mask Changes: On Tuesday, the State of Michigan lifted mask orders statewide. At the time of the announcement over a week ago, schools were notified that we would be provided guidance early this week. We have yet to receive further information. That being said, MHSAA announced that indoor and outdoor athletics will no longer be required to wear masks. Stores and restaurants are permitted to no longer require masks. Dexter Community Schools has not had a single positive case of Covid-19 in over 4 weeks involving a student or staff member. In the past two weeks, only [one positive case](#) has been reported in 48130.

After careful consideration, starting on Monday, June 28th, DCS will not require masks to be worn indoors or outdoors on our campus for school-aged students. Masks **will be optional** for any staff member, adult, or school-aged student. We are confident that our families, students, and staff will respect the decision of anyone who chooses to wear a mask and will continue to use appropriate precautions to keep each other safe. We are also confident that our families, students, and staff will continue to monitor any potential symptoms of Covid-19 and make decisions to protect the safety of others. If we are provided different guidance from the State, MDE, or MDHHS, we will update our practices accordingly.

Specific for Jenkins: We will continue mask requirements at Jenkins until we are provided updated requirements from LARA, who approves our child care licensing. Once we receive updated requirements, we will provide an update to families at Jenkins. Our anticipation is that we will receive updated information very soon.

Specific for Transportation: Students and staff will still be required to wear a mask on a DCS bus. Bus transportation is subject to specific requirements that have not been changed at this point.

Throughout the entire pandemic, we've followed the science and the data and will continue to do so.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Survey: Schools throughout the country, including Dexter Community Schools, are committed to standing for justice and equity by promoting meaningful and sustainable actions to create an inclusive learning and working environment that embraces diversity of ideas, experiences and voices. As part of this commitment, we are requesting our families to complete a short survey with a deadline of tomorrow at 4 p.m. The [survey link](#) was also texted to families.

Community Book Studies: On May 16th, we announced a series of community book studies and distributed requested books prior to the end of the school year. Next week, a communication will be sent to parents, students, and staff who requested books with details of the book study. The first book discussion will begin in July focused on the book Whistling Vivaldi.

Board Bulletin: Attached is the Board Bulletin from the Board meeting on Monday, June 14, 2021.

Thank you for your continued support, have a great weekend, and Go Dreads!

Sincerely,

Christopher Timmis, EdD

Superintendent