

OFFICE OF THE GCSC DISTRICT MANAGER

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Dr. Paige McNulty, GCSC Manager pmcnulty@garycsc.k12.in.us

February 18, 2022

Dear Gary community:

For nearly the past two years, our community has continued to adjust to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This update is a welcomed one, in that positive cases in our state and region are decreasing and the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) has provided updates to schools.

Beginning Wed., Feb. 23:

- Gary schools no longer will require masks. Individuals may continue to wear a mask if they choose.
- Gary schools no longer will be required to conduct contact tracing or report positive cases to IDOH.
- Gary schools no longer will need to quarantine students who are exposed to a positive COVID-19 case and asymptomatic, 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.

Gary schools are expected to continue assisting local health departments with notification in the event of an outbreak or cluster and are encouraged to continue to share information with families when a case is identified so parents can monitor their children for symptoms.

Gary schools will still use other strategies to keep our students and staff as safe as possible, including but not limited to:

- Isolate children who have tested positive and/or symptomatic
- Regular cleaning of all learning spaces
- Hand sanitizer in various locations and regular hand washing
- Upgraded air filtration systems and/or assessment of HVAC

We thank you for your understanding and patience. GCSC will provide further guidance and updates as received by the IDOH.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paige McNulty Manager