

September 1, 2021

Dear FCA Families,

FCA is not requiring students to wear masks this year; however, we want to be transparent about the quarantine requirements that the Fairfield Department of Health may impose if your unmasked child is exposed to a positive individual at school. The Fairfield Department of Health released new quarantine guidance on August 25, 2021, and Governor DeWine and the Ohio Department of Health provided additional guidelines on August 31, 2021.

If a student at school tests positive and unmasked students are 6 feet apart, no quarantine should be required by the Fairfield Department of Health. However, if unmasked students are closer than 6 feet, anyone (other than vaccinated individuals) within the 6 feet radius of an individual who tests positive may be quarantined by the Fairfield Department of Health.

FCA is currently taking steps to increase social distance to 6 feet in as many classrooms as possible. Thankfully, FCA will be able to accommodate such spacing in many of our classrooms. Elementary classrooms are already spaced so that children are spread out, and a quarantine in the event of an exposure will rarely be required under the current guidance. In some high school classes, however, 6 feet spacing will not be possible. In secondary classrooms where 6 feet spacing cannot be maintained, all unmasked students who were within a 6 foot radius of an individual who tested positive may be quarantined by the Fairfield Department of Health. Although we are not requiring masks, it is advisable for your student to pack a mask to wear *just in the classrooms where 6 feet social distancing cannot be maintained* so that your child can avoid a quarantine in the event that they are exposed.

According to the Ohio Department of Health, vaccinated individuals without symptoms, exposed at school, do not need to quarantine whether masked or unmasked.

Be assured that in all exposure situations, you will be notified so that you can make the best decisions regarding your child's health. We are committed to our parent partnership, and we will continue to communicate as much information as possible.

Our goal since the beginning of the pandemic continues to be the same goal we have today: to keep staff and students safe and to continue educating young people with a Biblical worldview every day.

We thank God for his faithful blessing on FCA. We believe that together, with His wisdom guiding us, we can continue to make our school a place where students learn, grow and thrive.

Thank you for your continued support,

Craig Carpenter