



November 29, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We are emailing our families to provide an update regarding Maplewood Richmond Heights' COVID-19 safety protocols. A few days before Thanksgiving break, a court in Missouri issued a ruling about how masking and quarantine procedures can be implemented in Missouri schools. Since the ruling, there have been news media and social media reports of how the ruling should be applied to schools. There are many questions about the ruling that remain unanswered and MRH is in the process of reviewing and evaluating what the decision may mean to our existing COVID-19 safety protocols.

At this time, MRH is not implementing any immediate changes or modifications to our current COVID-19 safety protocols. This means masking, contact tracing, quarantine, isolation, distancing, plexi, staff vaccination or weekly testing, and hand hygiene will continue to be implemented. Before MRH would take the step to move to a "mask optional" environment or modify quarantine protocols based on this court ruling, we would first communicate to parents and staff any changes to existing COVID-19 protocols. The District is aware of the importance of the court ruling and equally mindful of the need to be prudent and thoughtful before making any changes to our current protocol. In addition to the court ruling, we are also aware of and closely following reports of the new Omicron variant which was reported over the weekend.

MRH continues to implement excellent safety protocols and has done so effectively for over a year of in person learning during COVID-19. We will continue to navigate the pandemic in a safe, practical, and sensible way as we move forward and focus on the safety of our students, families and staff.

We appreciate your continued support and understanding and we will communicate updated information as soon as it is available.

In partnership,

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