

# Perry Central Community School Corporation

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August 11, 2021

Dear Perry Central Families:

We are so happy to have your children back for the 2021-2022 school year! Our first day was great!

I am writing to share a change in COVID-19 protocol. As we have said all along, our plans will change based on community data. Today, Perry County was designated as “red” by the Indiana State Department of Health based on the number of positive COVID cases and our overall positivity rate. It has been recommended by the Perry County Health Department that all K-12 students and staff be required to wear a mask indoors while the county is in red status. We will follow this recommendation and require masks to be worn starting Thursday, August 12th, and we will continue the requirement until the county’s color is no longer red. County color status is calculated weekly and published each Wednesday. The guidance we received from the Health Department is included at the end of this letter.

Attendance at athletic events will be limited during the county’s red status as well. Indoor events will be limited to 25% attendance and outdoor (the football stadium) will be limited to 50% attendance.

I understand that this decision will be celebrated by some and criticized by others. I am a school superintendent, not a healthcare professional, and I believe that we best serve our school community by following the guidance of our local healthcare professionals who are dealing with the pandemic in Perry County daily. Our overarching goals are to keep children and staff safe and healthy and to keep our school open. We sincerely hope that the mitigation strategies we have put into place will help our school and community move in a positive direction.

We will continue to communicate with families each week as things change, and we encourage you to reach out with questions or concerns. Thank you for your support.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Tara Bishop'.

Tara Bishop, Superintendent  
(812) 719-9839

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**On August 10, 2021 The Perry County Health Board Members and Health Officer met and discussed the fact that PERRY COUNTY HAS BEEN PLACED IN THE RED STATUS on the Indiana Department of Health's Metrics map. The transmission of COVID-19 is extremely high in our community and immediate recommendations must be communicated to ensure the wellness of our community.**

**The Perry County Health Board Members unanimously voted to approve the following recommendations to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in Perry County during this time of widespread activity.**

**\*Masking and Social Distancing are strongly encouraged to be in place at ALL public places (indoor & outdoor), events and businesses.**

**\*Please get VACCINATED, it truly is our best weapon against the battle of COVID-19.**

**\*Isolation and Quarantine measures MUST be followed as directed by school and/or public health officials and as stated in Indiana Department of Health's COVID-19 control measures.**

**\*Masking of ALL students and staff at schools is strongly recommended.**

**\*Schools are strongly recommended to adopt a color coded attendance policy to activities/events which aligns with the Indiana Department of Health's Colored Metrics Map. (Red= 25% Orange= 50%).**

**\*If you are sick or are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, please STAY home!**

**\*The Perry County Health Department Staff, Health Officer, and Board will continue to reevaluate our community's RED STATUS and the effectiveness of recommendations to slow the spread.**