

# ***CROSS COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS***

## ***HOME OF THE COUGARS***

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Brent Hollinger  
*Superintendent*

Celebrate the past...  
Embrace the Future

August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**TO: PK-12 Parents**  
**FROM: Brent Hollinger**  
**RE: COVID protocols for 21-22**

Welcome back everyone! We are super excited to get everyone back into the building so we can get this school year rolling. The 20-21 school year with COVID was one to remember!

As we are aware, COVID is still around and in some parts of the country, perhaps thriving once again. In Nebraska, we currently are not under any State of Emergency nor is there any Directed Health Measures issued to the public like there was last school year. Let's hope that continues!

Our number one goal is to keep children safe, attempt to insert common sense into protocols and planning as much as we possibly can, based on limitations that are in place. It is hard to predict the future, but my hope is we have a fairly quiet year with COVID. I don't think it is fair to say we will not have any COVID cases in school or in the community. I think the reality is we will, but my hope again is that we do not have a huge increase in activity that could require other mandated protocols.

The 21-22 Cross County COVID plan is as follows;

- a. Masks are optional for students, staff and anyone entering the facility or attending an event.
- b. Drinking fountains are shut off and only the water dispensers will be on (same as last year). Students will need to bring a water bottle from home.
- c. Consistent cleaning of high touch surfaces and promotion of good hygiene and hand washing.
- d. If a staff member or student has symptoms, they will be sent home until symptoms no longer exist. We will continue to ask parents to be a key player in helping identify symptoms with their child(ren) and keep them home from school.

As you can see, we are managing COVID basically like we would the flu. The only difference is, if there is consensus on a situation where high exposure is likely, monitoring symptoms daily would be followed with the discussion of whether a mask is needed to be worn for five days.

Not knowing what the future will bring, this will be our protocol until we are mandated by the State of Nebraska to do otherwise or we determine locally that additional protocols need to be added. As a school, we are receiving contradictory information on a weekly, if not daily basis. Cross County will continue to evaluate and determine what is best for our students, staff and families.

Let's have a GREAT school year and Go Cougars!

Mr. Hollinger



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