



Mount Carmel Area School District

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August 30, 2021

MCA Learning Community:

Beginning tomorrow, Tuesday, August 31st, Mount Carmel Area will issue a masking mandate, as voted on at our school board meeting this evening, in all buildings, for all students, staff, and visitors. We will also continue our mandate of masks on school district transportation.

Please understand that this decision was not taken lightly. In the past week we have had multiple positive cases that resulted in dozens of students needing to quarantine as a result. This decision was made due to our belief that this choice will ensure our buildings stay open 5 days per week for in person instruction and will decrease the amount of students that would possibly need to quarantine as inevitable cases rise. Where 40 students needed to quarantine today due to two positive cases, if masks were worn at all times by students, less than 5 would have had to possibly quarantine.

See PA Department of Health Plans and Processes for K-12 Schools. Slide #11

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Documents/K-12/Safe%20Schools/COVID/GuidanceDocuments/Plans%20and%20Processes%20for%20K-12%20Schools%20During%20COVID-19.pdf>

We are very thankful that our learning community continues to support our school district. We will again need to work together for the betterment and overall safety of our students and staff. We will overcome this pandemic - together as a community.