

August 10, 2021

Greetings USD 245 Families:

Thank you for your continued support of the health and safety of our students and staff as we continue our planning to provide safe in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year.

We need to share with you today some recent clarification that we received from the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) which will require our compliance and adherence to an existing Order from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). This Order applies to all students who will be riding a school bus and requires that all students and all drivers wear masks over the mouth and nose while on the bus and while waiting indoors for the bus, which is known as a “transportation hub” in the CDC / HHS order.

The key term in the CDC/HHS Order that makes the masking requirement applicable to our school buses is the term “conveyances,” which will not only include school buses but will also apply to other forms of school district-provided transportation such as activity buses, vans, SUVs, and/or cars.

We will ensure that our drivers have extra masks available should your child(ren) be without one. We appreciate your time in reviewing this information and your patience and understanding with continually evolving circumstances that require our compliance and adherence. Please know we will share any updates with you about this existing Order as we learn about them.

Sincerely,

Matt Thomsen, USD 245 Superintendent  
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