



August 16, 2021

Dear St. Joseph Elementary Family,

Our county has continued to see an increase in cases, as well as the positivity rate (On July 12 our county Positive Test Rate was 0.9% and is currently, 7.1%). Because of this increase, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

For students in Grades TK-5:

- Masks will be required in classrooms and common areas to start the school year
- Masks can be removed while students are outside
- School visitors must wear a mask while in all buildings

This requirement will help to protect children not yet eligible for the vaccine. We have been actively developing, and will continue to develop, criteria to help support our protocols for face coverings. This data will help guide our future decisions regarding masks and any other potential protocols.

In addition, we will continue to follow social distancing guidelines, sanitizing classrooms and common areas, and encourage hand-washing.

Your support is appreciated. Taking this step will help us to have a safe and successful start to our school year.

Battle Creek Area Catholic Schools
Advisory Board