



Dr. Saltzman staff message May 18, 2021

To: All EPS staff
From: Dr. Ian B. Saltzman, Superintendent
Regarding: COVID protocols in light of recent announcements

Good afternoon staff! I hope you are all doing well! As you know, protocols and requirements around COVID are rapidly changing, so I wanted to give you a quick update.

Last week, after the CDC announced that people who are fully vaccinated for COVID no longer need to wear masks or socially distance, Governor Inslee followed indicating Washington State would adopt the same guidelines.

It is important to note there were several exceptions to the new guidelines. Hospitals, transportation and schools are exceptions and still have to follow the standard masking and social distancing requirements. In addition, businesses can also decide independently if they would like to keep the masking and social distancing requirements or not.

Our goal is to keep our students and staff healthy and safe, and we are going to continue to follow school guidance requiring masks of all people (vaccinated or not) and 6-foot social distancing, except in some classrooms that have already been determined can require less. Those two requirements also apply to all district buildings, including the CRC, athletic complexes, etc., and to all staff, students and visitors.

I have been hearing of some staff that are not wearing masks as they should, so I will just remind you that we are doing this for the health and safety of our students and colleagues. Please be vigilant on mask wearing, hand sanitizing, social distancing, and please stay home if you have any COVID symptoms.

The new guidelines have left a few unanswered questions about graduation, and that guidance is expected later this week.

Thank you for all you do.

Please be safe and be well,

Ian