



## Weekly Update—Thursday, April 29, 2021

### New Updates:

- 1. Teacher Appreciation Week—May 3-7**—We are looking forward to celebrating all of our teachers next week. When I think about all they have done to support children, parents, and each other it is hard for me to find the “right” words to adequately express my admiration and gratitude. Let’s celebrate our teachers next week and always.



- 2. Colorado Decision Day—Friday, April 30**—Celebrate Decision Day by wearing gear from a university or college, community college, private occupational school, an apprenticeship, branch of the military, or MSSD. Let’s cheer on our Class of 2021 and future graduates. I’ll be wearing my Louisiana State University gear. Geaux Tigers!
- 3. COVID Update**—We have experienced a recent uptick in positive cases that have impacted students and staff. Right now, we have seven positive cases that have led to quarantines at MSES (1), MSMS (1), and MSHS (5). Looking back to last Friday, we only had two positives. We have worked so hard to remain in-person and start to expand rich and exciting learning experiences for students.

I share this information not to be an alarmist; however, as we move to the end of the school year, we need to be relentless in monitoring symptoms and remaining home if an individual is symptomatic or has been near someone who is positive. It is important that we do not leave these circumstances to chance.

We have important childhood events just around the corner...Graduation, 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade promotion ceremonies, field trips, learning in the classroom. Many high school students are looking forward to their upcoming Advanced Placement exams. The list could go on and on. I know our staff and parents are also wanting to be a part of these important moments.

I do not mean to sound like a broken record, but it will take each and every one of us holding tight to the practices and protocols that have proven to keep our students learning and thriving in-person. We know how hard everyone has worked, and we appreciate the partnership tremendously.

Let’s stay focused on and committed to:

- Staying home when a person is sick.
- Staying home when a person has been in close contact with someone who is being evaluated for COVID.
- Wearing a mask.
- Washing hands frequently.

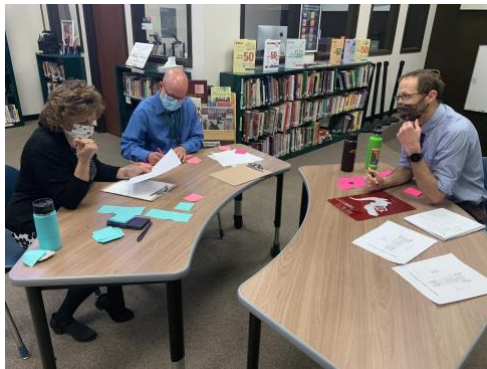
If any student or staff member needs to remain home due to any symptoms associated with COVID, we ask that you complete the [COVID Intake Form](#). If you are ever interested in the current number of active positive cases, you access that information [here](#).



4. **Summer Learning Opportunities**—We will be providing unique and exciting summer learning opportunities for students in grades Kindergarten to 11<sup>th</sup> Grade. Communication about middle and high school experiences will be shared soon.

5. **Important Upcoming Dates:**

- Wednesday, May 5—Staff Professional Work Day/Students Learning At-Home
- Tuesday, May 11—Manitou Springs School District 14's Parent Appreciation Day (more information to come)
- Wednesday, May 12—National School Nurse Day
- Sunday, May 23—Graduation!



**Carrie Duntap**  
HOES ART TEACHER

BY WEARING MASKS YOU HELP  
KEEP  
**CREATIVITY  
CONTAGIOUS**  
IN MY ART ROOM... NOT COVID!

#MaskingForManitou  
#LoveTheTownYouAreIn

**LISTEN TO YOUR  
TEACHERS**

**BRANDON DEMATTO**  
HSSE FOOTBALL & BASEBALL COACH

AVOIDING LARGE GATHERINGS KEEPS  
OUR STUDENT ATHLETES ON THE FIELD  
WHERE THEY RECEIVE THE  
**RELATIONSHIPS,  
OPPORTUNITIES, AND  
DEEP LEARNING  
EXPERIENCES**  
THEY NEED.

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