



Weekly Update—Wednesday, April 7, 2021

New Updates:

- 1. Culture Surveys**—It is that time of year for us to gather feedback related to our school and district culture. The importance of a positive school culture cannot be overstated. This survey will help us identify our own strengths and opportunities, with the end goal of providing the best possible work environment for our employees, collaborating and partnering successfully with parents and families, and creating tremendous learning environment for our students.

Students in grades 3rd-12th will complete these surveys during the school day. Sample items include: I like going to school, I feel safe at school, There is an adult at my school who will help me if I need it.

Staff received the survey link yesterday.

Parents will receive the direct link to the survey in the PowerSchool message.

These need to be completed by next Tuesday, April 13. Thank you for taking the time to complete these surveys.

- 2. Plexi-Glass Barriers**— We have used the plexi-glass barriers this year to create an environment where there was an added layer of separation between individuals. We are thankful for everyone's commitment to using these barriers this school year.

Our COVID Response Team meets daily, and we are consistently reflecting on and reviewing our practices. The usage of masks continues to be the primary tool for creating a barrier, in conjunction with physical distancing when possible. That being said, our team has determined that the usage of barriers are now at a place where we can begin to phase them out of the school day. This will begin next Monday, April 12.

- Some teachers may want to continue to use the barriers in their classes, which is okay.
- Some parents and students may want to continue to use the barriers. This is also okay.

If you would like your student to continue to use a barrier in class, please contact your school's front office. Any child will be able to continue to use a barrier without explanation. More information will be shared in each of the school's weekly updates that will go out by Friday.

If your child's teacher wants to continue to use barriers in their classroom, all students will need to continue to use barriers in that class.

There are many different reasons that a child or teacher might want to continue to utilize these plexi-glass barriers, and we want to be respectful of those individual reasons when it comes to this matter.

- 3. April Board of Education Meeting**—Monday, April 19
 - a. Work Session—4:30 pm <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84779058287>
 - b. Regular Meeting—6:00 pm <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89168646332>

We will continue with the virtual meeting format. The BOE has also agreed to allow 15 guests to attend in person. Health screening checks will happen at the exterior door of Media Center at MSHS.



4. **Friday, April 23: Staff Professional Development Day**—No school for students.

Wednesday, May 5: At Home Learning/Staff Work Day—Students learning asynchronously at home.

5. **Summer Learning and Enrichment Opportunities**—Our team is finalizing some truly unique summer learning and engagement experiences for students. This opportunities include Green Box Arts, Connect14, Growing Gardens, Robotics, Pikes Peak Library District at the MAC, academic Jumpstarts, and more. Please be on the lookout for these exciting and creative learning experiences.
6. **State Assessments**—State assessments are just around the corner (begin April 13). Please see the weekly update for your child's school. These updates will include specific information about the assessments being administered. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Kolleen Johnson (kjohnson@mssd14.org).
7. **COVID.** Thank you for continuing to remain diligent with support students and staff to remain in-person by:
 - 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](#).