MISSISSINEWA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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February 21, 2022

Mississinewa Community School Families,

On February 17, the Indiana State Department of Health released updated COVID-19 guidance for schools that becomes effective on February 23, 2022. We have included a few highlights from this update in the following statements:

- The Indiana State Department of Health no longer recommends contact tracing and quarantining in schools.
 The Indiana State Department of Health will no longer require the reporting of positive cases by schools.
 Effective immediately, contact tracing and quarantine due to exposure measures are ended within Mississinewa Community Schools. If a student tests positive, there is still a 5-day quarantine.
- A negative test or doctor's note is no longer required to return to school. Students should not return to school
 unless they are fever free for at least 24 hours prior without the use of fever reducing medication. Parents are
 encouraged to communicate with our school nurses when students are ill as was our practice prior to the
 pandemic.

As a result of these updates, Mississinewa Community Schools will no longer identify close contacts, and we will not quarantine students who were in close proximity to a COVID positive student.

Additionally, the current mask mandates and guidelines for Mississinewa Community Schools will end on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, for all students and staff inside our schools. Masking will be optional for students and staff. Please note that masks are still required on Mississinewa school buses at this time as established by the Department of Transportation.

We understand how the last few years have included many updates and revisions to the way we operate school during this pandemic. Your cooperation and teamwork during these extremely challenging times in keeping our students and staff safe has been appreciated and valued. You are truly a "Tribe of Excellence."

You can find the new Indiana Department of Health Guidelines posted at www.olemiss.k12.in.us. As we receive additional information or guidance from the State or local Health Department, we will share that information with you in a timely manner.

On behalf of the Mississinewa Community Board of Trustees, our leadership team, and our nursing staff, THANK YOU for your support during this unprecedented time in history!

Go Indians,

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Steve Quaderer Principal, MHS

Andy Roesch Principal, RJB Amanda Varner Principal, NV

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