

Parents and Guardians,

The CDC, Avera, and Sanford affiliated hospitals and clinics are encouraging/recommending masking anytime we are in a public setting. With the spike in cases in our district, we are seeing more students masking at school. Remember a student's time at school is just a small portion of their day, and masking anytime while in the public is good, sound practice. Please help by encouraging your child to take precautions, including masking, to help change our current trajectory and meet our goal of finishing the school year without disruption to academics or activities. Political differences, or personal opinions aside, any actions we take now will assist with prolonging the timeframe we are able to hold instruction on site. This action may or may not make a difference in the long-term, but hopefully it will in the short-term and we can continue to keep our doors open as long as possible. We have already seen North Dakota freeze all winter sports, and impose greater public mandates. This is not a stretch to feel this is where we may be headed if we do not take action now. Maybe, we can make a difference, maybe it will make no difference, but the latter will be true if we choose to do nothing.

Steve Benson-Superintendent