



Boone County Schools

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The Boone County Board of Education provides equal employment and educational opportunities.

Wednesday, September 22, 2021

Dear Boone County Families & Employees,

Our students and staff have continued to perform well over the last two weeks and I continue to be impressed by their energy and care for others. Additionally, our student attendance rate is approximately 95%; special thanks goes to our students and parents for their dedication to attending school each day. We are now also operating nearly 200 students above our enrollment projections across our entire school district.

For the past two weeks, the weekly total of COVID-19 positive cases and quarantines for our 20,000+ students are shown below:

- Sept. 6-10	115 student cases	571 student quarantines
- Sept. 13-17	129 student cases	371 student quarantines

Across our nearly 4,000 employees, we recorded the following:

- Sept. 6-10	16 employee cases	11 employee quarantines
- Sept. 13-17	29 employee cases	8 employee quarantines

Please remember that this data takes a day or two to be processed and then posted, there may be some lag time in all data posted on our district website.

Regardless, our district priority remains consistent: we must keep our schools open for daily, in-person instruction during this pandemic. Our students have been great and our staff have performed well, however, the start of our school year has been challenging and exhausting. Therefore, we are staying the course and will continue to follow the safety strategies in our current Return to School Plan while our county incidence rate is at the red or high level. This includes the universal masking requirement for all students and employees. We are currently working to identify metrics that will help determine when we could safely relax masking or other safety requirements. A decision-making plan describing when the status of our COVID-19 safety strategies may change will be shared soon.

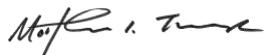
The Test-to-Stay program is a voluntary program paid for by federal funding and offered by the KY Department of Public Health (KDPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Six of our schools (Conner HS, Conner MS, Goodridge ES, Kelly ES, North Pointe ES, Thornwilde ES) started the Test-to-Stay program with four more schools starting implementation this week (Ballyshannon MS, Gray MS, Ignite Institute, Ryle HS).

More schools will be added to this program as the logistics are fine-tuned. This testing program allows students that have been quarantined, due to a close contact with a person testing positive for COVID-19 at school, to take a COVID-19 antigen test each day for five consecutive school days. If the student's COVID-19 test is negative then they may stay at school that day. If the COVID-19 test is positive, then the student must return home and quarantine for the recommended 10 days.

We continue to have an urgent need for bus drivers, custodians, and paraeducators. Please visit our [Employment Opportunities](#) page to view open positions in the Boone County Schools. Recent changes to state requirements has made the hiring process faster and loosened some restrictions; see our Human Resources webpage for details. Please share this information with friends or family – we need your help.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding as we work toward a safe, consistent, in-person school year for our students and employees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Turner".

Matthew Turner
Superintendent of Schools