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GLR Communities:

I believe one area in which all of us can agree is that we want and need our student learners and staff in school this year. While we have taken significant measures with PPE protocols and procedures, we still have work to do. Our main focus is having our students and staff in a safe environment that reflects strong collaboration with peers. At GLR we should be proud of our start to the 2020-21 school year.

We will need to continue to review data from Lyon County and the surrounding areas. That being said, beginning Monday, October 12, GLR will mandate that all staff and students in grades 6-12 will wear a mask in class, hallways, and lunch lines when they cannot socially distance 6 feet apart. During outdoor events, students will not be required to wear a mask. Masks will also be required for grades 6-12 during student transportation when not socially distanced.

We want to keep healthy students and staff in school. Quarantining healthy students and staff has been the largest source of anxiety for students and staff during this time. Our school district is all about caring for the well-being of our entire district. We understand the frustration of being penalized for something that is beyond the student's or staff's control. Masks may also reduce the possibility of contracting Covid-19 while in school. I have listed the proposed mandates as we move forward in uncharted territory.

1. With the use of face masks, daily routines at the secondary level will move back to normal. Students can proceed directly to their classrooms instead of moving the same direction.
2. Masks will not be required of spectators at events, although we do highly recommend it. We will be marking off bleachers to encourage more social distancing.
3. We also understand this will be a change. We will work with students and staff to show proper techniques of putting on and removing masks, plus we will allow some breaks during the day to remove masks.

We know this has been a trying year in many respects. We also acknowledge that mask use is not something that is always favored; however, we believe that their use is in our district's and community's best interest at this point and time. We will continue to emphasize the importance of handwashing and social distancing but believe that face coverings will help provide an extra layer to help us stay healthy and continue being at school.

Please know that your superintendent is very proud of all our accomplishments as we move into a different phase of education at GLR.

Sincerely,

Tom Luxford
Superintendent of Schools GLR