

PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER 39-2020
PURSUANT TO INDIANA CODE § 16-20-1-24
AND CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE 5 OF THE CODE OF THE HEALTH
AND HOSPITAL CORPORATION OF MARION COUNTY

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and a trend toward cases in a younger population, and to ensure that social distancing measures vital to the mitigation of the pandemic remain in place, I hereby order as follows, effective January 4, 2021, at 8:00 AM (except for paragraphs 6 and 7, which are effective December 13, 2020) applicable to all schools in Marion County:

1. For high schools (grades 9-12):
 - a. All classrooms must be arranged to allow for at least six (6) feet of social distancing between each student.
 - b. If social distancing of at least six (6) feet cannot be maintained, the high school must move to on-line only or hybrid (combination of on-line and in-person) student instruction so that the total number of students on campus at any one time will allow for at least six (6) feet of social distancing between each student.
2. Hybrid (combination of on-line and in-person) instruction requires that the number of students in the school building be limited by the ability to provide six (6) feet social distancing.
3. Elementary Schools (K-5) and Middle Schools/ Junior High Schools (6-8) may conduct all student instruction in person. Students must remain distanced at least 3 feet within the classroom.
4. If a school includes more than K-8 in a single building, classes K-8 must social distance at least 3 feet within the classroom, in order for all classes to continue without a hybrid or on-line model. Grades 9-12 must maintain a

social distance of at least 6 feet within the classroom. Otherwise, grades 9 and higher will require a hybrid or on-line model at the school in addition to the in-person K-8 classes.

5. For schools with any portion of instruction being conducted in person:
 - a. Passing periods must be staggered.
 - b. School meals must be served in the classroom, or students must be in cohorts in the cafeteria with the cafeteria being disinfected after each cohort.
 - c. Band, orchestra, and choir groups must limit the duration of practice and performance to no more than 45 minutes. Bands and orchestras must have a minimum spacing between string and percussion instruments of 60 (i.e. 6x10) square feet per instrument (with masks) and wind instruments of 100 (i.e. 10x10) square feet per instrument with a preference for outside or an inside space that is filled to no greater than 50% capacity. Choirs must not be larger than 12 singers with a distance of at least 100 (i.e. 10x10) square feet per singer (with masks) with a preference for outside or an inside space that is filled to no greater than 25% capacity and a minimum distance of 20 feet from any audience. Further guidance on this paragraph will be developed.
 - d. All teacher lounges and breakrooms must be closed, unless social distancing of at least six (6) feet can be maintained. Face coverings must be worn at all times in teacher lounges and breakrooms, except while eating or drinking.
 - e. Student supplies can be shared only within cohorts and should be disinfected regularly.
 - f. Access to student lockers must be limited in order to prevent students from congregating.
 - g. Permanent seating charts must be maintained in each classroom to aid with contact-tracing efforts.
 - h. Students in grade 3 and above, and all staff, must wear a face covering that covers the nose and mouth at all times, except when eating or

drinking. At the direction of the instructor, the student may briefly remove his, or her, mask on an intermittent basis.

- i. Face coverings and face shields may be removed during indoor recess for not more than 10 minutes, provided social distancing can be achieved. Masks are not required for outdoor recess, providing that social distancing can be maintained.
- j. School bus drivers and all students who ride a school bus must wear a face covering that covers the nose and mouth at all times. Bus seating should keep children who do not share the same household spaced three (3) to six (6) feet apart whenever feasible. (CDC guidelines recommend at least six (6) feet when feasible.) Seats must be assigned. School bus windows should be opened to increase cross-ventilation when weather permits. Transportation by personal vehicle is encouraged.

6. For all K-12 extracurricular and co-curricular activities (**Effective date December 13**)

a. Overall Attendance:

(Based on the state's color-coded system to inform Hoosiers about the status of COVID-19 in each county across Indiana. The ISDH will continue to update each county's status under the color-code system at least weekly.)

- i. Counties designated as Blue, Yellow and Orange:
Notwithstanding the attendance limits on social gatherings and events and upon approval by the local health department, overall attendance at an extracurricular or co-curricular activity must not exceed 25% of capacity at the event location.
- ii. Counties designated as Red: Notwithstanding the attendance limits on social gatherings and events, attendance shall be limited to participants, support personnel and student's parents, guardians, siblings, and other minor children of parent or guardian of students.

7. All club and recreational sports league events (**Effective date December 13**)

a. Overall Attendance:

(Based on the state's color-coded system to inform Hoosiers about the status of COVID-19 in each county across Indiana. The ISDH will continue to update each county's status under the color-code system at least weekly.)

i. Counties designated as Blue, Yellow and Orange:

Notwithstanding the attendance limits on social gatherings and events and upon approval by the local health department, overall attendance at an extracurricular or co-curricular activity must not exceed 25% of capacity at the event location.

ii. Counties designated as Red: Notwithstanding the attendance limits on social gatherings and events, attendance shall be limited to participants, support personnel and student's parents, guardians, siblings, and other minor children of parent or guardian of students.

8. It is recommended that all schools provide opportunities for students and staff who are at high-risk for serious illness from COVID-19, as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to opt out of in-person interaction with other individuals during school hours in compliance with ADA and FFCRA and other federal and state laws and regulations.

9. The Marion County Public Health Department recommends that individuals who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 quarantine for 14 days. However, based on new CDC guidelines for quarantining, an asymptomatic individual may reduce quarantine to 10 days after exposure/contact with a person with COVID-19. The quarantine can end on day 10 without further testing as long as that individual has had no symptoms for the last 24 hours. The Marion County Public Health Department is not currently recommending the 7 day testing option from the CDC.

10. The Marion County Public Health Department will continue to monitor COVID-19 data and will make additional recommendations or Orders as needed based on that data.

This Order is issued pursuant to Indiana Code § 16-20-1-24 and Chapter 7, Article 5 of the Code of The Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County.

All other Public Health Orders remain in effect, except as contradicted by this Order. Unless otherwise specified in this Public Health Order 39-2020, the restrictions imposed by Governor Holcomb's Executive Orders apply.

Virginia A. Caine, M.D.

Virginia A. Caine, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

Issue Date: December 14, 2020