



COVID-19 Guidelines Adjusted for Marion County Schools

June 11, 2021 by Educator Barnes

Marion County Public Health Order 14 went into effect on June 8 at 8 a.m. This impacts school guidance for summer school and summer programming. One constant during the pandemic was the shift school staff had to make due to the health orders.

Schools are still expected to have at least three feet of social distancing between students. Additionally, students will still be required to sit in assigned seating to be able to contact trace COVID cases, and students will eat in cohorts in the cafeteria or eat in their classrooms.

However, the guidance for face coverings has changed. In the last Marion County Public Health Order that was directed towards schools, the guidance for masks was:

Students in grade 3 and above, and all staff, must wear a face covering that covers the nose and mouth at all times.

The language shifted in MCPHO 14 to:

*Students in grade 3 and above, and all staff, must wear a mask or face covering that covers the nose and mouth at all times **unless fully vaccinated.***

As COVID-19 cases are tracked, the public orders are adjusted. It is possible that the guidelines will shift again when the school year begins.