



To Protect, Promote and Prioritize the Health of Our Entire
Community

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Dr. Lindsay Huse Statement on Masks

As the Douglas County community continues to respond to the continuing spread of the COVID-19 Delta variant, there are a few points the Douglas County Health Department (DCHD) would like to make.

- We will follow the science and the best recommendations of established, credible professionals in public health and medicine. As we learn more about how this virus behaves in people and in our environment, those recommendations can change. Based on transmission in Douglas County at this time, we recommend that **all** people wear masks in public, get vaccinated, practice good handwashing, stay home when sick, and get tested.
- Our goal is to keep people healthy and alive- preferably while keeping our community functioning as fully as possible.
- DCHD is working hand-in-hand with school districts to determine how best to implement recommendations in their districts, based on their own deep knowledge of the people they serve. This may include masking policies. Or, this may include the use of masks when transmission within schools is identified if a masking policy is not already in place. Schools are also planning other layers of interventions. We will continue working together closely to protect students and staff alike, and when cases arise, we will handle them on a case-by-case basis.
- We have tools at our disposal that can help us shorten the severity of the current spike in cases, and ensure our hospital capacity, education systems, and economy are protected. We need your help, though! Vaccinations remain the best tool we have, and they put our community in a better place to fight this than where we were a year ago. Wear your masks- the more people who wear them, the less virus is able to get into the air. Keep physical distances as much as possible, and as always, wash your hands and stay home when sick.
- Together, we can be the community that fights back. We can do this, Douglas County.

This is not politics and this is not entertainment – this is health and science.

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