

March 29, 2021

Dear Mount Vernon Christian School Community,

Welcome to Phase 3 of Healthy Washington!! I am very grateful to our faculty, staff, students and families. You have been gracious with all we have had to do to make this school year happen in the manner it did. We continue to have success in doing in person school because we are working together.

We are operating at [Level Green](#) with no known cases on campus and families, faculty and staff closely adhering to MVC's safety protocols.

We encourage you all to continue to walk with us the remainder of this year and as we plan for next year. Here are a few updates on being in Phase 3, Spring Break and Easter.

**Phase 3 and what that means.** To be honest, the K-12 Guidance from OSPI and DOH has not changed very much.

- We are allowed to have more people attend sporting events.
- It has allowed us to plan for future events like the school play and graduation. We will begin to have some larger school events each week like chapel. If you're curious about what is required for these events here is the [document](#).
- Athletes can now compete without wearing a mask.
- Schools can space desks 3 feet rather than 6. We are keeping our desk spacing at 6 feet since we are fully in person and do not feel a need to move things around.
- We also have modified our mask protocols even though DOH did not change any of that guidance except for the guidance for competing athletes.
  - Students at MVC will not be required to wear face coverings while outside for PE or Recess when activities are correctly spaced out.

### **Spring Break**

- As a reminder we have a noon dismissal on Thursday, April 1 and we have no school on Friday, April 2.
- Spring Break is April 5-9.
- School Resumes on April 12.
- Governor Inslee rescinded his November 2020 Travel Advisory on [March 19, 2021](#). Washington is now following the [CDC travel guidance](#). Please check the guidance for the area you are traveling to and from. If students will be missing school make sure you complete the planned absence form which is available in the EI/MS and HS Offices.
- There is no longer a recommended travel quarantine. Please continue to screen your children and make sure they are healthy each day before attending school. Here is a link to the [screening questions](#) from our [Return to School Playbook](#).
- Enjoy your break, rest, relax and return ready to finish off a great school year!!

## **Easter**

- This week we remember the death and resurrection of Christ. We hope that you have an opportunity to participate in some Holy Week activities as a family. Many of our local churches have special services planned. It would be wise to check with them on what protocols or services they are having. Please let me know if you need information for churches in your area.
- I wrote this to my daughter (Josie MVC 2020 grad) last week. Josie is a freshman at Dordt University in Sioux Center, IA. She was asking me questions about "free will" and why bad things happen. It was part of an assignment in her Philosophy class.
  - "God is revealed through the cross. Being dismissive when bad things happen or when evil exists, trying to explain the loss of a child to a grieving parent with the phrase, 'I guess God needed another angel' seems wrong, because it is. Martin Luther called this type of thinking 'Theologies of Glory' and advocated for just calling evil, evil. God is cruciform or revealed through the cross. To explain bad or evil away, diminishes the cross. The cross represents the ultimate 'God is good and evil happens' moment, and we need to call it what it is. Jesus himself cries from the cross, 'God is good but all is not well! Where are you?' God's love (a cross) and human affliction (a crucifixion) show true contradiction. Sorrow and blood flow mingled down."
- Easter demonstrates God's love and forgiveness. It also displays Christ as our advocate and His resurrection is victory.
- Here is a link to some family [Holy Week Activities](#).

## [Jesus Paid It All](#)

All to Him I Owe,

Jeffrey A. Droog, Superintendent

If you wish to support MVC financially here is a link to our [online giving](#) portal. If you select CANES CARE it helps cover costs related to COVID-19.

Links you may find helpful:

[COVID-19 testing locations](#)

[Governor's Dashboard](#)

[UPDATED OCT 16 Department of Health Decision Tree](#)

[Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction](#)

[State Board of Education](#)

[Washington Department of Health Covid-19 Dashboard](#)

[World Health Organization \(WHO\) CoVID-19 Dashboard](#)

[Center for Disease Control](#)

[National Institutes for Health](#)

[American Academy of Pediatrics](#)