



ROCKCASTLE COUNTY SCHOOLS

245 Richmond Street • Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

October 23, 2020

Rockcastle County School Community,

I have been monitoring the community incidence rate of Rockcastle County and working daily with our local health department to track our COVID 19 data. Yesterday evening, I was notified that our community incidence rate is currently 32.5, placing us solidly in the Red Zone. For this reason, Rockcastle County Schools will continue to operate on NTI for the week of October 26-October 30. Based on our board approved school calendar, there is no school for students on Monday and Tuesday, November 2nd, and November 3rd due to a Professional Development Day and to Election Day. My goal is for us to return to school in person on Wednesday, November 4th. I will monitor the incidence rate of Rockcastle County and collaborate with our local health department to make a final decision regarding our return to in person learning closer to that date.

Please know that I value in person learning and know that having students in our classrooms is the absolute best place for them to be. I am committed to returning our students back to the classroom as soon as we move into the Orange Zone. Rockcastle County Schools currently has 57 students who are quarantined and 2 students who are positive for COVID 19, and that number continues to climb daily. **We cannot put a price tag on the safety of our students or our staff.** I give the Rockcastle County community my commitment that I will analyze all factors and bring our students back as quickly as I can. Thank you for your patience and understanding as I make difficult decisions regarding student learning. I very much appreciate the support of the Rockcastle County Community, and know that as a team we will continue to strive to ensure that our students navigate through this difficult season with support and success.

Sincerely,

Carrie Ballinger

Superintendent Rockcastle County Schools