January 20, 2022

Dear Members of the University Community,

Last week, we shared a number of important updates to the Royals Back Together plan, including a requirement to wear higher grade masks. These new steps take effect with the start of the Spring Semester on January 26.

As with all steps we have taken through the pandemic, our focus remains on providing the best possible educational experience for our students in an environment that is safe for all members of our community. Through the steps we are implementing we remain confident that we can continue to provide that experience through in-person instruction and activities. We know how important that is to our students and families.

We will continue to monitor and track the progress of the pandemic in our region and on our campus, and adjust our plan accordingly. It remains our hope that we can revisit various safety measures, such as the higher mask standard, if the community spreads return to levels we were experiencing before the recent surge in cases.

Through the link below, you can access additional information that addresses common questions and concerns regarding revisions to the plan:

Additional Information Regarding Updates to the Royals Back Together Plan

Through the link above you can access additional information on the following topics:

- Rationale for Booster Requirements and Information on Compliance
- Additional Information on Higher Grade Mask Requirement and Mask Availability from the University
- Information on Testing Prior to the Start of the Semester Including Limited Testing Options to be Offered on Campus
These are difficult decisions, and we remain focused on ensuring the health and safety of our campus community.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Davis Jr., Ed.D.
Vice President for Student Life

Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D.
Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Patricia Tetreault
Vice President for Human Resources