

January 11, 2022

Vanguard Community,

The Spring 2022 semester is underway. I hope everyone had a restful holiday break, and I am excited to see you all back on our campuses.

No doubt each of you are aware that the number of active COVID-19 cases in Arkansas is the highest we have seen during the pandemic. This is a trend in many areas of the nation and world. Currently at ASU-Beebe, we are experiencing our highest number of positive cases, as well ([ASU-Beebe COVID-19 Report](#)).

Safeguarding our ability to be safely on our campuses and in our classrooms and laboratories remains my #1 priority. I am determined to do all I can to preserve our students' educational experiences, but I cannot do it alone.

I am asking each of you to help us safeguard the Vanguard Community and continue to be diligent about the actions we can take to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

- **Watch for Symptoms:** Take responsibility for monitoring your own health. If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or if you have been in contact with a person known to be infected with COVID-19, DO NOT come to campus and self-report your condition via our COVID-19 Self-Reporting Form located on the [ASUB Coronavirus Information](#) webpage. A staff member will contact you and determine if you should test, quarantine, and/or isolate. Students who must isolate or quarantine are to contact their instructors to make arrangements to keep current in their coursework.
- **Watch Your Distance:** Stay at least three feet from others at all times, and practice the recommended six feet of social distance whenever possible.
- **Mask Up When Indoors:** Facemasks are currently required in all ASUB indoor facilities on all our campuses. I also encourage you to wear a facemask in all public indoor facilities, even when not on campus. Further, when you can't keep six feet of distance between yourselves and others, mask up outdoors as well.
- **Wash Your Hands:** Practice good hygiene by washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, regularly using a 70% or higher alcohol-based hand sanitizer, and cleaning and disinfecting commonly used objects and touched surfaces often.

Finally, I continue to encourage members of the Vanguard Community to seek vaccination against COVID-19 if possible. If you are vaccinated, I encourage you to talk to your healthcare provider about when you should receive a booster. I highly encourage you to discuss all vaccination questions and concerns with your personal healthcare provider.

I look forward to a wonderful Spring 2022 semester! My thanks to each of you for all you do to #VanGUARDYourHealth and #ProtectOthers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer L. Methvin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

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