

## FRAZIER SCHOOL DISTRICT

## William R. Henderson III, Ed. D., Superintendent

bhenderson@fraziersd.org

Kevin W. Mildren, Business Manager Eric Johnson, Director of Special Education

kmildren@fraziersd.org ejohnson@fraziersd.org

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

wore well-fitting masks the entire time.

On August 31, 2021, the Pennsylvania Department of Health announced a face covering mandate for all K-12 public and private schools. This PADOH State Mandate is scheduled to take effect on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 12:01am.

The Frazier School District must comply with this state mandate. Commencing on Tuesday, September 7, 2021, all Frazier School District teachers, staff, students, and visitors will be required to wear an appropriate face covering when indoors, regardless of vaccination status. The order is posted on our district website at <a href="https://www.frazierschooldistrict.org">www.frazierschooldistrict.org</a>. Exemptions will only be considered if they are accompanied by a physician's order and/ or in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or IDEA for the student's medical or mental health condition or disability.

We understand that you may not be in agreement with this mandate, however, the Frazier School District is very much committed to providing a quality education to all students, while not compromising a child's health and well-being. As with current guidance from the CDC and DOH, if students are both masked, and at least 3 feet apart, there is no quarantine requirement if exposed (see below). This will help our schools to remain open and continue to provide our students with an in-person, face-to-face learning experience.

CDC guidance adds the following exception to the definition of close contact:

In the K–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) if both the infected student and exposed student(s) correctly and consistently

With that being said, districts across the country are experiencing various disruptions to the educational process due to mask mandates. We do not want Frazier to fall into this category. We will not debate whether or not masks are effective, or if they should or should not be mandated. These disruptions will not only affect our children, but those who are trying to provide instruction to our children, as well as those responsible for the daily operations of our district. As stated prior, we must adhere to the mandate, and we ask that you do the same and discuss this with your child prior to returning to school on September 7, 2021. By working together, we can limit unnecessary disruptions and provide the continuity of education that our students need and deserve.

In addition, the Frazier School District will continue to work with the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Pennsylvania Department of Health in order to stay updated on the most current information and guidance regarding COVID-19. Please check our district website regularly for the most up-to-date information regarding COVID-19 as well as other events occurring within our school district.

Our goal for the 2021-2022 school year has been, and will continue to be, providing our students with a safe and healthy in-person learning experience with limited distractions. Together, we can accomplish this goal. Thank you and have a safe and relaxing Labor Day weekend.

Sincerely,

William R. Henderson III