

GREENWICH TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

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February 23, 2022

Dear Greenwich Township Parents and Guardians:

Recently, Governor Murphy announced that the statewide mask mandate for our schools will expire effective March 7, 2022. As per our Greenwich Township School District Education, Health and Safety Plan, revised December 22, 2021, the Greenwich Township School District will comply with prevailing directives, mandates, or executive orders by the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Education, County Department of Health officials, and/or local personnel. Given that the mask mandate will be lifted and in consultation with our local school physician, masks will be optional for all staff, students, and visitors effective March 7, 2022.

Please note, that some exceptions to this option will apply.

- School busses are subject to federal masking regulations and under current guidance, <u>students will still be</u> required to correctly and consistently wear masks during transportation to and from school on buses.
- Anyone visiting the school nurse's office due to symptoms of illness will need to wear a mask. This is for the health and safety of our staff and students and in attempt to mitigate transmission of Covid-19.
- Anyone opting to utilize the on-site COVID-19 testing will be required to wear a mask upon entering the building and throughout the process.

Knowing that some would prefer to keep their masks on due to their individual needs and concerns, all will be welcome to wear a mask within the school environment. Individual decisions regarding mask usage will be respected. In accordance with district policy, bullying will not be tolerated.

It remains critical that those who exhibit any identified COVID-19 symptoms outside of school hours be kept at home. Please continue to support the health and safety of our students and staff by monitoring your child's health closely and following these expectations.

As per our Education, Health and Safety Plan with regard to contact tracing, the District will continue to follow protocols and advice recommended by the school physician and/or state and local Department of Health Officials. Their guidance and District guidelines may change as circumstances warrant. Our school nurses will alert parents to changes in our contract tracing procedures as necessary.

Please be aware that It remains possible that the District may need to reinstitute any previous health and safety measure or adopt new ones, depending on changes in health and safety criteria or as a result of mandates, executive orders, or other directives from the Governor, the New Jersey Department of Health, and/or local authorities, including our own medical personnel.

Thank you for your time and attention in the matter. Sincerely,

Jerneper Loley Hindman