



**OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR**

*Chair: Goronwy Price  
C.E.O./Director of Education: Anthony Stack*

To: All Families  
From: Ed Walsh, Associate Director of Education (Programs and Human Resources)  
Re: Mask Use in Schools and On Buses  
Date: January 24, 2022

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As noted in the [Public Health Guidance for Return to School \(2022\)](#), and the Chief Medical Officer of Health's Special Measures Orders, wearing a mask plays an important role in reducing the transmission of COVID-19. In advance of your child's return to school tomorrow (January 25), the District is highlighting the following requirements:

- All students are required to wear a mask at all times in common areas and while in the classroom (unless there are significant communication impediments);
- All students must wear a mask on school buses (unless there are significant communication impediments).
- Masks are not required when actively eating or drinking, or during physical activity.
- Public Health has advised the District masks with three (3) layers are recommended for students. These can be either a three-layer cloth mask or a three-ply disposable non-medical mask.

Requests for exemptions to this requirement will only be considered where:

- The student has a physical or mental health condition that prevents them from wearing a mask (which must be supported by appropriate medical evidence; the school's knowledge and experience working with the student ), or
- There are significant communication impediments to wearing a mask, which will be assessed by the District, and may also require medical evidence.

Unless an exemption is approved by the District, based on one of the above grounds, every student is required to wear a mask in accordance with Public Health Special Measures Orders in order to ride the bus and attend school.

Please take the time to discuss with your child the importance of following the mask guidelines contained in this memo. Non compliance with these guidelines may result in your child being advised that they cannot attend school or ride the bus.

The District thanks you in advance for your continued support and cooperation.