

**WOOD-RIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
540 WINDSOR ROAD  
WOOD-RIDGE, NEW JERSEY 07075**

*Anthony Albro  
Superintendent of Schools*

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March 4, 2022

Dear Wood-Ridge Public School District Community,

At the Board of Education meeting on Monday, February 28, 2022, the matter of wearing masks was addressed. As you are aware, Governor Murphy previously announced that as of March 7, 2022, school districts will have a choice for implementing practices of wearing masks in response to COVID-19 health practices. At this time, the Board of Education has decided that all of our school buildings will operate in a mask optional environment for all students, staff, and visitors starting Monday, March 7, 2022. Please note the following:

Starting Monday, March 7, 2022

- The Wood- Ridge Public Schools District will employ a mask optional practice for all students, staff, and visitors.
- Masks will be optional on all district provided bus transportation.
- Any venue visited by members of the school community for a school sanctioned event (such as class trips, sporting events, etc.) must comply with the mask requirements of that particular venue.
- Contact Tracing and notification of confirmed cases will continue and further information regarding isolation/quarantine will be shared next week.
- All practices are subject to change upon receipt of updated NJDOH guidelines, State of New Jersey orders and/or the discretion of the Wood-Ridge Board of Education.

Please take this time to have family discussions in order to best prepare your school attending child for the mask wearing practice of your choice. Parents/Guardians who want their child(ren) to continue wearing a mask will need to communicate their expectations to them. School personnel will not be responsible for regulating mask wearing.

We ask that all school families continue monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms, keeping children home when not well and maintaining open communication with school personnel in the event that a child is experiencing COVID-19 compatible symptoms.

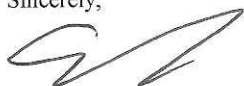
Good hygiene and sanitary practices will continue to be promoted in all school district buildings as it has contributed to mitigating the spread of the virus via in-school virus transmission. Please continue to talk with your child(ren) about maintaining healthy practices such as hand washing, using sanitizer, covering one's cough and sneeze, keeping a healthy physical/social distance, not sharing beverage bottles, and the many other practices that are consistent with maintaining good health.

As the school district transitions to a mask optional practice, we expect to see students and staff members who will either continue to wear a mask or move forward without wearing a mask daily. It goes without saying that a mask optional practice now makes wearing or not wearing a mask a personal choice. This now becomes an important teachable moment for the schools and for our school families as conversations should be taking place about respecting another person's choice. Actions or words intended to ridicule, harass, or otherwise question another person for their choice will not be tolerated and appropriate action will be taken.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,



Anthony Albro  
Superintendent of Schools

***“HOME OF THE BLUE DEVILS”***