



Brecksville-Broadview Heights City School District

Mask Mandate Rescinded at Middle School and Elementary Schools Effective Immediately

October 28th, 2021

Dear Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools Community,

At its regular meeting last night, the Board of Education decided in a 3-2 vote to **rescind the mask mandate for grades 6th through 8th, and, with the new guidance from the Ohio Department of Health below, the district has also lifted the mask mandate at the elementary schools, all effectively immediately.** The details of that updated guidance, named *Mask to Stay* and *Test to Play* are outlined below and have been posted to our website. While the BBHCSD still strongly recommends everyone to wear a mask, the mandate for the elementary schools and the Middle School, once again, has been lifted effective immediately. Part of our success in keeping cases low during the first quarter of school has come from your flexibility, collaboration and communication. Thank you for your patience with the District.

Earlier this week, on Monday, October 25th, the Ohio Department of Health issued updated recommendations regarding quarantining and close contact in a school setting, and the District would like to share that information with you. Accordingly, please see below to learn more.

Mask To Stay

Direct contacts in a school environment, regardless of vaccination or masking status, may remain in the classroom environment if they:

- Wear a mask for 14 days after their last date of exposure.
- Self-monitor, or parent-monitor, for symptoms of COVID-19.
- Isolate and get tested if they start to experience symptoms associated with COVID-19 (regardless of level of severity).
- Consistent with guidance for others quarantining in lower-risk environments, students and staff may discontinue these quarantine procedures after seven days — if they meet two basic criteria: one – they don't develop symptoms, and two – they test negative between days 5-7.

While parents and students are responsible for symptom monitoring, if school staff or school nurses see a child exhibiting symptoms they should act accordingly.

Test to Play

Asymptomatic contacts in a school environment may continue to participate in extracurricular activities if they:

- Wear a mask when able. This includes wearing a mask during transportation, such as traveling on a team bus to and from games; while in locker rooms; while sitting or standing on the sidelines; and any time the mask will not interfere with breathing, the activity in which they are participating, or create a safety hazard.
- Test on initial notification of exposure to COVID-19.
- Test again between days 5-7 following exposure to COVID-19. If they are negative at this time, they will test out of quarantine after day 7 and can resume normal activities.

School districts are also encouraged to consider same-day testing for athletic competitions

where there is the potential of school-to-school exposure. Those who are fully vaccinated, as well as those who consistently wear masks in school, can already remain in the classroom if exposed to COVID-19 in a school setting. As always, you can learn more by visiting the [COVID-19 Resources](#) page on our district website and read the comprehensive nature of this guidance. Thank you for your continued support and flexibility with regard to these matters.

The Middle School PSO will be hosting its virtual wine-tasting fundraiser next Friday, November 5th in partnership with our local business *750ml*. The R.S.V.P. date has been extended through today, Thursday, October 28th. [Please reference the attached flyer which has been posted to the district's website](#) to learn more about this amazing opportunity to support our Middle School PSO. All proceeds will benefit the Middle School Auditorium fundraising campaign.

In other news, as we have all become aware, school districts are experiencing an unusually unexpected absence of bus drivers, including the BBHCSD. In order to prepare for this nuance, several bus routes have had to be combined, thereby lengthening transportation times for several groups of students. The BBHCSD is kindly asking for your continued patience as we manage the bus driver shortage situation while safely transporting students. Thank you for your understanding and your flexibility, if your student's transport time has been slightly increased.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Joelle M. Magyar
Superintendent of Schools

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Brecksville - Broadview Heights City School District

6638 Mill Road, Brecksville, OH 44141

☎ 440-740-4000

