



June 24, 2021

**GCASD Update - Masking/Face Coverings**

Dear GCASD Families,

At last night's Board of Directors special voting meeting, our Health & Safety Plan was updated and approved. Our updated plan is posted on our District website and can be accessed by clicking [here](#). PDE recently simplified the Health & Safety Plan template for schools and you will see that this has allowed GCASD to implement a much more concise and responsive plan document.

**On Monday, June 28, Pennsylvania is lifting its mask mandate statewide.** At the time of this letter, school districts have not received guidance stating otherwise regarding masks/face coverings in schools. Therefore, beginning on Monday, June 28, 2021 masks/face coverings will no longer be required in our District facilities. GCASD will continue to follow guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DoH). Please keep in mind that if guidance from these governing oversight agencies changes, we will respond responsibly and immediately update our families.

Throughout the pandemic, GCASD has strived to maintain a continuity of learning programs while also implementing procedures to protect the health and wellbeing of our students and staff. Our commitment to both education and safety will continue, and we will always respect the extended efforts of parents when it comes to making safe choices for their children. As such, all District staff will demonstrate full support for any students that chose to continue the use of face coverings in our schools and the District will continue to provide personal protective equipment while also maintaining procedures that reduce the risk of disease transmission.

We hope this update is helpful for you and your family as our situation continues to improve. The 2021-2022 school year appears as though it will provide all of us with a greater sense of normalcy and consistency. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's principal for assistance.

Sincerely,

*Jeffrey A. Finch*

Jeffrey A. Finch, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

*Joshua J. Weaver*

Joshua J. Weaver, Ed.D.  
Assistant Superintendent