



FULLERTON JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Office of the Superintendent

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February 28, 2022

Dear FJUHSF Families and Students,

Today, Governor Gavin Newsom announced **the state's requirement for student masking in schools will expire Friday, March 11, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.** While the state will still "strongly recommend" mask wearing for students while at school, this change will allow students, regardless of vaccination status, to be given the option to wear or not wear a face mask while indoors at school beginning Saturday, March 12, 2022. Until Saturday, March 12, 2022, mask wearing indoors while on school sites, and all other current safety protocols for students such as indoor athletes, music, dance, choir, drama performance, etc. will remain in effect.

During a press conference, Dr. Mark Ghaly, Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency, cited declining case rates and hospitalizations across the west coast and that California, Oregon and Washington are moving together to update masking guidance. As such, FJUHSF will align its protocols accordingly, which will allow students a choice when it comes to wearing masks while on campuses starting on Saturday, March 12, 2022, and moving forward. In the meantime, mask wearing is still required for all FJUHSF students and staff while indoors on school sites when students are present through March 11, 2022. [Updated Health Guidance](#).

Beginning Saturday, March 12, 2022:

- Students will be given the option to wear or not wear a mask both indoors and outdoors.
- There will be no distinction between vaccinated and unvaccinated students in the updated state masking policy.
- Regardless of vaccination status, masks will also no longer be required for students participating in VAPA activities such as music, dance, choir, drama performances, etc.
- Unvaccinated student athletes will also no longer need to be tested for COVID-19, nor need to wear a mask.
- Attendees of indoor school events will no longer need to wear masks.
- Masks will also no longer be required for students when riding school-provided transportation.
- We are currently working with local health officials to also **determine a possible timeline for masks to be optional for staff members** and for additional clarity on "Mega" or large events greater than 1,000 participants.

I want to take this opportunity to remind our community to continue to be kind and respect the personal choices of others. I encourage each of us to avoid making assumptions regarding someone's beliefs or health status based upon their choice to wear or not wear a mask.

Thank you for your continued partnership and your resilience. This is a positive step as we move toward an endemic phase of the pandemic. FJUHSF will continue to take every step necessary to preserve the health and safety of our students, staff, and our community and will provide timely and necessary updates.

Sincerely,

Steve McLaughlin, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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