

Dear BSCSD Parents and Caregivers:

As follow up to our communications over the past several days regarding masking, below please find the 10 key points from the revised guidance that was issued late last night (see [https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/Pre-K to Grade 12 Schools MasterGuidance.pdf](https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/Pre-K%20to%20Grade%2012%20Schools%20MasterGuidance.pdf)). Much of the language below is taken directly from that document to ensure consistency and clear understanding. Please understand that **the requirement to wear a mask indoors is a state requirement and not the District's**. As such, we have a legal obligation to follow this and the associated rules established within the guidance.

1. **Masks** - No change from April, but as a reminder, *Masks should have at least two layers of material (e.g. 2-ply). Acceptable masks for COVID-19 include but are not limited to cloth-based masks (e.g., homemade sewn, quick cut, and surgical masks that cover both the mouth and nose. Face shields worn without other masks are not considered adequate protection or source control against COVID-19 and should not be used.*  
- *Responsible Parties and faculty may use alternate PPE (i.e., masks that are transparent at or around the mouth) for instruction or interventions that require visualization of the movement of the lips and/or mouths (e.g., speech therapy). These alternate masks may also be used for certain students (e.g., hearing impaired) who benefit from being able to see more of the face of the faculty or staff member.*
2. **Indoor masking** – Still required. No change from April, but as a reminder, *Face masks are required at all times in indoor school facilities, except for meals.*
  - *Responsible Parties will need to consider and address developmental appropriateness, feasibility, and ability to implement such policy in a safe, consistent manner.*
  - *Students who are unable to medically tolerate a mask, including students where such mask would impair their physical health or mental health are not subject to the required use of a mask.*
  - *Responsible Parties should offer assistance to students who may have difficulty in adapting to wearing a mask.*
  - *Responsible Parties must train all students, faculty, and staff on how to adequately put on, take off, clean (as applicable), and discard PPE, including but not limited to, appropriate masks. This training should be extended to contractors and vendors, if the Responsible Parties will be supplying the contractors and vendors with PPE.**As was true in April, there is no provision for not wearing masks inside when separated by six feet or more.*
3. **Outdoor masking** - **NEW** Effective June 7, 2021, face masks are not required to be worn outdoors on school grounds, including during outdoor school sports. However, Responsible Parties may choose to require face masks outdoors on school grounds, subject to the parameters of this guidance. No student, teacher, staff member, or visitor may be prevented from wearing an acceptable face mask voluntarily on school grounds. No student, teacher, staff member, or visitor may be prevented from wearing an acceptable face mask voluntarily on school grounds.

4. **Transportation masking** – Masks are still required on school buses. No change from April guidance, but as a reminder, *Consistent with State-issued public transit guidance, Responsible Parties must develop protocols and procedures, which include that individuals must wear acceptable masks at all times on school buses (e.g., entering, exiting, and seated), and that individuals should maintain appropriate physical distancing, unless they are members of the same household. Responsible Parties should encourage parents/legal guardians to drop off or walk students to school to reduce density on buses.*
5. **Sports masking** - **NEW** Effective June 7, 2021, face masks are not required to be worn outdoors on school grounds, including during outdoor school sports. However, Responsible Parties may choose to require face masks outdoors on school grounds, subject to the parameters of this guidance.
6. **Physical distancing** - Still required. No change from April guidance, but as a reminder, *Responsible Parties must maintain protocols and procedures for students, faculty, and staff to ensure appropriate physical distancing to protect against the transmission of the COVID-19 virus when on school grounds and in school facilities.*
7. **Screening including temperature check** (Pinpoint) - Still required. No change from April guidance.
8. **Testing, tracing, and quarantining** - Still required. No change from April guidance.
9. **Graduation** - SPAC will need to make this decision and we will notify parents and graduates of any changes.
10. **Stakeholder engagement** – Still required. No change from April guidance, but as a reminder, *All plans should continue to reflect engagement with school stakeholders and community members (e.g., administrators, faculty, staff, students, parents/legal guardians of students, local health care providers, and affiliated organizations, such as unions, alumni, and/or community-based groups), particularly local health department(s), and, in accordance with the minimum requirements referenced herein, cover: (1) reopening of school facilities for in-person instruction, (2) monitoring of health conditions, (3) containment of potential transmission of the 2019 novel coronavirus, and (4) closure of school facilities and in-person instruction, if necessitated by widespread virus transmission.*  
- *Responsible Parties must conspicuously post completed reopening plans at the school and on their website for faculty, staff, students, and parents and legal guardians of students to access.*

**Next Steps:** We will incorporate the new provisions for outdoor masking into our existing plan today, post it, and add a survey which we will ask all stakeholders to respond to. We will then

seek to schedule a special meeting of the Board to present the responses and our recommendation. I will continue to communicate with you on the timing of each of these steps.