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Dear Hornet students, parents, faculty and staff:

As you may be aware, the CDC has recently amended its recommended masking protocols and, to varying extents, State and local health authorities have amended theirs to match. Regardless of these changing guidelines, our district's COVID practices remain unchanged.

Masking, along with distancing, remains one of the best, most-proven strategies for preventing the spread of the virus in the school setting. Our success in this regard is unquestionable, and the discipline shown by all parties in wearing masks with fidelity has been tremendous, and has surely curbed COVID spread.

We must also remember that, while society and commerce have largely re-opened, and aggressive vaccination programs may have created a sense of relief and comfort amongst those who are eligible, a pediatric vaccine is not yet available. As such, approximately half of our student body still has no recourse but to employ good COVID protocols and to trust that we will do the same.

Naturally, we will revisit this topic as we transition to next school year, and/or as pediatric vaccines become broadly available.

So again, in the interest of both consistency and consideration for those who are not yet vaccinated, our district's masking protocols remain unchanged.

Best,

Jay Lebrun Superintendent of Schools