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July 8, 2021

Dear Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Parents, Community Members, Faculty and Staff,

Based on NJDOE's recently-released guidance for September and on information released by Governor Murphy on Monday, June 28, we are updating our masking procedures. Governor Murphy announced, "masking by students will not be mandatory in school buildings unless the district decides to require masking as part of its own protocols." Therefore, masking for staff and faculty members, visitors, and students is optional, indoors and outdoors during the 2021-22 school year unless the region metrics change or alternative guidance is provided from the Governor. As recommended by the CDC, masking for unvaccinated staff members, visitors, and students is encouraged except for when doing so would inhibit the individual's health.

Individuals on district transportation must remain masked, as per the Governor's directive. When a student is riding district transportation, masks may be removed in extreme heat situations or when a student's health is inhibited. If the child has a documented medical condition or disability, as reflected in an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504, a face covering is not mandatory.

The Flemington-Raritan Regional School District continues to promote hand-washing and respiratory hygiene through signs and measures to remind students, staff, and faculty of healthy behaviors. In addition to all existing cleaning procedures, the district facilities and custodial departments have continued stringent measures to protect students, staff, faculty, and visitors from contracting or spreading the COVID-19 virus. The District will follow all recommendations outlined in numerous government publications and advisories which are already established, and will adjust procedures and policies accordingly as new advisories are released and updated.

In review,

- 1. Masks are optional for staff, faculty, visitors, and students;
- 2. Masks are required on district transportation; and
- 3. District facilities and custodial departments as well as health and hygiene team members continue stringent measures to protect students, staff, faculty, and visitors from contracting or spreading the COVID-19 virus.

These procedures are effective immediately. We may continue to adjust in response to new guidance from state or federal agencies, changes in local public health conditions, or other circumstances as they occur. We will continue to monitor the data and our decisions using guidance from the CDC and local health department.

I hope every family enjoys a safe, healthy, relaxing and fun summer. We look forward to seeing our students again when they return to school on September 8 for a traditional school year!

Sincerely,

Koin McGann

Dr. Kari McGann Superintendent of Schools