



FORRESTVILLE VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #221

SUPERINTENDENT
Mrs. Sheri Smith

August 6, 2021

Dear Forrestville Valley Families,

Governor JB Pritzker announced an Executive Order Wednesday, August 4, 2021, that supports safe in-person learning and **requires** that masks be worn indoors by *all* teachers, staff, students, and visitors to PreK-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. The new measure is part of the state's ongoing effort to combat a new surge of the Delta variant and differs from the district plan released last week which was based on local data and layered mitigation strategies.

All Forrestville Valley students, staff, and visitors will be required to mask at all times throughout the school day, and frequent breaks will be provided. Masking requirements will mirror the 2020-2021 school year and there is no local flexibility issued at this time. The district's failure to follow an Executive Order would result in potential loss of state funding as well as district liability and insurance coverage.

The mask requirement is inclusive of youth sports and activities, with masks now required for all indoor extracurriculars and sports, regardless of vaccination status. In line with CDC guidance, masks are not required for activities outdoors where transmission risks and rates are lower. This mask requirement will extend to all spectators at indoor extracurricular activities.

All students and staff will start the school year with this mask mandate in place. Should this change at any point we will continue to communicate with all families via our Skyward email and phone systems.

Our goal is to continue our in-person instruction with limited interruptions. Please note this mask requirement is a state mandate and is non-negotiable for PreK-12 public schools. I want to thank you for your support of the Forrestville Valley School District as we do our best to continue educating your student during pandemic conditions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Smith