

September 10, 2021

PENNCREST Families,

We share your frustration and anger over the timing of the mask Order, decrease in local control and limitation of personal family health decisions. We have spent the summer planning for a normal start to the school year, and to have our plans overturned the evening of our first day of school is disheartening. We appreciated your patience and cooperation this past week. Next week is our first full week of school. Our students and teachers are settling into the normal school routine and we are determined to have a great year.

Last night, the Board of School Directors passed a motion to join a lawsuit filed against the August 31st PA Department of Health Secretary's mask Order. Until this legal injunction is heard and decided, the PENNCREST School **District must comply with this legal directive**.

On Monday, September 13, 2021, all PENNCREST students and families must comply with the <u>mask Order</u> as outlined and <u>clarified</u>. All students and staff are required to wear a face covering as outlined and clarified **OR** have a section 3.B. exemption. We are accepting section **3.B.** exemptions in one of two ways.

- 1. Medical documentation from a healthcare provider OR
- 2. Parents of students with current IEPs or 504s may complete the PENNCREST Mask Waiver

Regardless of personal opinions or legal interpretation of the mask order, we cannot accept parent letters or notes excusing a student from wearing a mask.

It is our experience that the most effective COVID-19 mitigation strategy is keeping sick individuals out of our schools. I implore all individuals who are sick, ill or unwell to stay home. Your past and future cooperation with our principals, faculty and staff is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Dr. Timothy S. Glasspool

Superintendent