



St. Martin Parish School Board

P. O. Box 1000 Breaux Bridge Louisiana 70517

November 4, 2021

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff,

At the November 3, 2021 School Board meeting, our Board voted to lift the mask mandate at schools. Staff and students may now wear or remove masks at their own discretion when on school grounds or in school buildings. Masks will remain voluntary in buildings as long as the quarantine numbers remain below 10% of the school's population. Masks must still be worn on busses due to the national mandate still in effect.

These new procedures will require a change in how students are identified as close contacts and how they are quarantined. On busses, masks are still required and the district will continue to identify students as close contacts if they are three feet or less from a positive or suspect case. The parental choice option is still allowed when the close contact occurs on a bus. In school buildings, since the mask mandate is no longer in effect, we will return to using the rule of identifying a close contact as six feet or less from a positive or suspect case. The LDH guidelines require that since masks are not worn by all in buildings, the parental choice regarding quarantine is no longer an option. We will however, use the shortened quarantine guidelines.

I am asking for your help in keeping our quarantine numbers low by following a few steps. Please do not send your child to school if they are exhibiting symptoms-contact your doctor or have them tested for COVID. They may return if they have a negative test or an alternate diagnosis. Secondly, if your child exhibits symptoms at school please agree to have them tested. With your permission we can conduct the test at school free of charge and with little inconvenience to the parent or student and have the results usually within an hour. Finally, encourage your child to keep six feet away from others when possible. Together we can keep our students safe and in school.

Sincerely,

Allen Blanchard, Jr
Superintendent

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SUPERINTENDENT

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