CLINTONDALE APPLIES TEMPORARY MASK MANDATE Board of Education votes 7-0 to require masks through Jan. 31

CLINTON TOWNSHIP (October 12, 2021) – The Clintondale Community School District's Board of Education voted unanimously on Monday to temporarily require masks be worn by all PreK-12 students, teachers, staff, and visitors at all district buildings beginning Monday, October 18.

The temporary mask mandate will be in effect until January 31, 2022.

This ruling will also apply to spectators at all indoor athletics and extracurricular events during and after school hours. It will not apply to student-athletes or game officials.

The district's initial back-to-school safety plan did not include a mask mandate, but the Board voted 7-0 to require masks due to rising COVID-19 case numbers in the district. The Board's decision comes after the district recently surveyed parents and guardians to gauge their comfort level on mask wearing in times of highcommunity spread in order to keep students in the classroom.

With a continued uptick in the rate of disease spread and severity, the Board made the move in order to maintain five-day-a-week in-person instruction. This should prevent the need for prolonged quarantines or transitions to remote learning because of disease spread.

The four-question survey was electronically sent to Clintondale families on October 4. The district received 240 responses. Here are the questions and responses:

- Are you in favor of a mask mandate for your child in the Clintondale Community School District? Yes: 77.1% No: 22.9%
- 2. Should the Clintondale Community School District Board of Education consider temporarily requiring masks in times of high-community spread in order to maximize face-to-face learning?

Yes: 82.9% No: 17.1%

- 3. Is your child fully vaccinated? Yes: 18.3% No: 54.6% I do not plan on getting my child(ren) Vaccinated: 27.1%
- 4. Has your child received at least one dose of a vaccine? Yes: 18.3% No: 81.7%

A follow-up survey will be sent to Clintondale families on January 4, and the mandate will be reevaluated at the Board's general meeting on January 10.