



WESTPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent

February 27, 2022

Dear Westport Community School Families,

We hope you had a wonderful winter vacation!

As you are aware, there have been many changes regarding mask-wearing in our schools during the Coronavirus pandemic. Today, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a new mandate regarding mask-wearing on school busses and child-care centers. Please see the narrative below to ensure compliance with the new directives.

At the Westport school committee meeting on February 17, 2022, committee members unanimously voted to remove the mask mandate for students upon returning to school on February 28, 2022. Simply stated, students will no longer have to wear masks while in school. However, students will still be required to wear a mask when entering our nurses' offices. However, based on the CDC's decision today, students will no longer be required to wear masks while riding on a school bus. Additionally, as the school committee members voted to remove Westport Community Schools' masking requirement starting on February 28, 2022, athletes playing in tournament games at Westport will no longer be required to wear masks.

Please be advised that these changes in mask-wearing at our schools can change subject to the trajectory of the pandemic, as well as from mandates emanating from local, state, and national leaders. Additionally, I cannot stress with enough verve that any student, staff, or visitor to Westport Community Schools can voluntarily wear a mask. In conference with our district and school leadership, we will be sure that those who wear a mask will do so without any recriminations. It is an individual's choice to wear or not wear a mask, and either decision is welcomed at our schools.

We look forward to seeing our students upon their return from winter vacation. We also want to congratulate our women's and men's basketball teams, who have qualified for the state tournament. On Tuesday, March 1, 2022, our women play at home at 6:30 pm against Prospect Hill. Our men's team will be playing at home against Millis High School on Friday, March 4, 2022. at 6:30 pm.

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