



AVON GROVE CHARTER SCHOOL

INSPIRE PASSION FOR LIFELONG LEARNING ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

February 7, 2022

Dear AGCS Community,

This letter updates you about the upcoming public board meeting on Tuesday, February 15th, 2022. We will be revisiting the topic of the mask mandate. As predicted, a lot has evolved since the last Board meeting. With the rapid decrease in case rates, we're starting to be in a better place than two weeks ago. The Board is committed to updating the Health and Safety plan as new information is received. You can be assured that the AGCS Board and Administration are basing all of their decisions and actions on the feedback from our local health leaders.

Several recommendations are being factored in when looking at masking reassessment:

1. Reduced virulence of COVID 19, as seen with the Omicron variant
2. Regionally declining case counts and transmission rates
3. Vaccinations and boosters are available for all school-age children
4. Reduced exposure risk
5. Declining hospitalization

Schools are trying to look at mask policies that move away from all-or-nothing approaches. We are all embracing flexibility, thresholds, and hyper-localization. It's important to have clear thresholds at the school level for mandatory or optional masks. We have been basing many of our masking decisions on school cases of infection, quarantine rates, and county level data.

We are looking forward to turning a corner in this pandemic and finishing this school year out strong.

Appreciate your support,

Kristen Bishop