

**For Immediate Release**

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# Media Release

## **CCSD following state law on face coverings for schools and buses**

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**Charleston, SC** – In accordance with the South Carolina Legislature’s “Mask Mandate Prohibition” proviso, signed into law by Governor McMaster, Charleston County School District (CCSD) is no longer requiring face coverings for students nor staff members. This applies to all schools, all programs in schools, and district offices.

The proviso, included in this year’s state budget, went into effect July 1, 2021, and reads as follows:

**1.108. (SDE: Mask Mandate Prohibition) No school district, or any of its schools, may use any funds appropriated or authorized pursuant to this act to require that its students and/or employees wear a facemask at any of its education facilities. This prohibition extends to the announcement or enforcement of any such policy.**

Related to this proviso, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) is encouraging but no longer requiring face coverings on state-owned school buses. CCSD will follow the SCDE’s decision and not require face coverings for students, staff members, or bus drivers on vendor-owned buses.

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### **About the Charleston County School District**

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all of its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves approximately 49,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools. Options include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military.