

KEENEYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT 20

5540 Arlington Drive East, Hanover Park, IL 60133 | (630) 894-2250 | www.esd20.org

February 18, 2022

Dear Keeneyville District 20 Families,

Late last night, the appellate court made a decision that effectively eliminated the Governor's mask mandate in his executive order issued last August. As a result of this decision and after a careful review of transmission rates and other COVID indicators, <u>District 20 will transition to "mask optional" beginning</u> <u>Tuesday, February 22.</u> While the District still recommends that masks be worn as part of the layered mitigation strategies, it is a personal choice. <u>Masks will continue to be required on all district</u> <u>transportation due</u> to a federal requirement that is not under local control. We are reviewing other mitigation measures and will provide additional updates at the February 24 Board of Education Meeting, which will be shared with families and staff after the meeting.

We ask our families, students and staff to please demonstrate kindness and respect for others, regardless of their decision to continue wearing a mask or to not wear a mask. This is not an opportunity to utilize masking as a means to point out differences in others or pass judgment. The District will not separate or segregate those wearing masks from those not wearing masks in our schools. We want to make sure that all staff and students continue to feel safe and supported through their personal choices and ask for your help in continuing to support that type of environment.

As a reminder, classes will resume on Tuesday, 2/22 after the Presidents' Day holiday. Stay safe and enjoy the weekend!

Sincerely,

Dr. Omar Castillo Superintendent of Schools Keeneyville ESD 20