

River Dell Regional School District

230 Woodland Avenue
River Edge, NJ 07661
www.riverdell.org

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

PATRICK J. FLETCHER
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

201-599-7206
FAX: 201-261-3809



February 9, 2022

Dear River Dell Community:

On Monday, February 7, Governor Murphy announced that the universal mask mandate for schools will expire on March 7. In addition, he indicated that the New Jersey Department of Health will release further guidance to assist school districts on how to implement this change.

I'm certain that many in the community would like an answer today as to the when and how the mask mandate will expire at River Dell. Because our district remains committed to making decisions that are in the best interest of our students, we will wait to receive the updated guidance and then consult with our local health officials before moving forward. Fortunately, we have the time to act responsibly in this matter.

These are positive steps for the community. I am hopeful that we are beginning to move from the pandemic stage of dealing with this virus to the endemic stage where we learn to live with it. However, we must remain diligent as we continue to move forward. Until further notice, masks must still be worn in the buildings. You must still report to your school nurse and building principal if a student or a family member tests positive or is a close contact so that you may receive appropriate guidance. However, the simplest and most effective way to keep everyone safe is to stay home if you feel sick. Do not return to school until fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.

Thank you for helping us keep our children safe and your anticipated cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "PJF", written over a horizontal line.

Patrick J. Fletcher
Superintendent of Schools

PJF/le