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## Important Update: In-school Mask-wearing Requirements

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January 25, 2022

Good morning,

As you may have read or heard, late yesterday a Nassau County Supreme Court judge decided a case involving a challenge to the indoor mask mandate that has been in effect. This decision indicates that the New York State Department of Health is no longer authorized to mandate the wearing of masks in school buildings.

The Attorney General, on behalf of the Governor and the Commissioner of Health, has filed an appeal. At this time, the District is awaiting official notice as to whether a stay has been issued in this matter that would continue to uphold the mask-wearing mandate.

At this time, and on the advice of legal counsel, the District cannot enforce mask-wearing in its schools. However, all members of the school community are strongly encouraged to do so and to continue to follow other COVID-19 mitigation measures. I ask that all school community members kindly consider that many individuals feel safer when around others who are also wearing a mask.

I expect that there will be an update on this matter in the near future that will likely restore the indoor mask mandate. Once the necessary guidance is received, I will promptly communicate with the school community. Additionally, appropriate announcements will be made in schools to inform students and staff members.

Very truly yours,

Kris

Dr. Kristopher Harrison  
Superintendent of Schools

6 Dows Lane  
40 North Broadway  
Irvington, NY 10533  
914-591-8500 | 914-591-3064  
[www.irvingtonschools.org](http://www.irvingtonschools.org)

