

# MONTCLAIR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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**Superintendent of Schools**

**Jonathan Ponds, Ed.D.**

March 1, 2022

Dear Families, Caregivers, and Staff,

Effective March 7, masks will be optional for all students, staff, and visitors (PREK-12) in all indoor and outdoor school settings, as well as on [school buses](#). I want to thank the MEA, Montclair Principals' Association, families, and students for providing input and sharing their thoughts. This decision was made based on guidance from the CDC, NJDOH, and our Montclair Health Department.

We are encouraged by the dramatic decrease in cases as well as our region being reported as "low transmission and risk" according to the weekly [Current Activity Level Indicator \(CALI\)](#) from NJDOH.

Optional masking will remain in place and would be subject to change if the case rate and risk level were to rise to the high or highest levels according to guidance from the CDC and NJDOH. We will review COVID-19 activity levels weekly. If a change is indicated, families and staff will be notified accordingly.

I thank you in advance for coming together as a community to respect the choice of all individuals with understanding and empathy. As a district, we will continue to monitor our transmission within the schools, and we will keep you informed should anything change.

Sincerely,  
Jonathan Ponds  
Superintendent