



Estell Manor School District

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February 24, 2022

Gov. Murphy Lifts Mask Mandate

Masks will be optional as of Monday, March 7, 2022

Dear Estell Manor School District Community,

On February 7, 2022, Governor Murphy announced that beginning on Monday, March 7, 2022, the mandatory mask mandate for schools will be lifted.

Since the pandemic began, we have followed the requirements of the Governor and recommendations from the New Jersey Department of Health, the CDC, and our local health departments when making decisions related to health issues. Based on the Governor's decision and the sharply declining number of COVID-19 cases in our school community, the Estell Manor School District will move to a mask optional environment on Monday, March 7th. Students and staff are welcome to wear a mask if they choose.

It is important to note; the end of the mask mandate does not relate to school buses. The Federal requirement that masks be worn on public transportation remains in place. This means that while riding on a school bus, a mask must still be worn.

While masks will be optional within our buildings, the district will continue with mitigation measures including physical distancing when practicable, improved ventilation, enhanced cleaning procedures, and keeping students and staff home when symptomatic.

We will continue to monitor local data and information and guidance forthcoming from the Department of Health. As always, we will keep you informed of any further changes.

Sincerely,

Michelle M. Cappelluti, Ed.D.
Interim Superintendent