



# UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Home of the Golden Knights and Damsels"

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## **MASK MANDATE**

December 12, 2021

Dear Parents, Students, Staff, and Community Members,

On Friday, December 10, 2021, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled that the masking mandate imposed by State Secretary of Health, Allison Beam was not enacted lawfully and therefore is not able to be enforced. Therefore, school districts shall revert back to their local health and safety plans for mitigation procedures within their school buildings. Union School District's Health and Safety Plan states that we shall follow all mandates, orders, and laws but unless mandated, masking of individuals shall remain an individual's choice. Therefore, starting Monday, December 13, 2021, students, parents, staff members, and visitors may choose whether or not to wear a mask while on school property. The ruling of the State Supreme Court does not however remove the federal mandate for the wearing of masks on school provided transportation such as buses and vans.

I realize the polarized nature of this subject, strong opinions and emotions associated with it, and how many have disagreed over it. Through it all, our community has largely shown a great deal of understanding and the ability to work together through a difficult time. I sincerely thank our community for this understanding and support. Hopefully, we are headed on a path back to some sense of normal life.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Kimmel, Superintendent