

Friday, February 25, 2022

Dear WISD families,

As you may be aware by now, the Washtenaw County Health Department will be lifting their mandatory mask order for K-12 schools beginning next week on Monday, February 28th. This means that each individual school district will now be responsible for setting their own masking policies beginning next week.

We want to be clear that **WISD will keep all its current health and safety protocols for all student programs and early childhood programs**, *including universal masking*, **until at least March 8**, 2022. We are in the process of reviewing which of these protocols can be changed or updated.

Earlier this week, you should have received a survey link in your email. We are surveying families, staff, and young adult students to hear your thoughts on wearing masks in our classrooms and programs. We understand there are many opinions on this, so hearing your voice is important. We ask that everyone please fill it out by Monday, February 28.

We will be bringing together a group of WISD parents, educators, union leaders, and administrators next week to consider changes to our health and safety protocols. This group will review your survey feedback and consider new guidelines to make a recommendation that will ultimately be proposed to our Board of Education on March 8. Please watch for more information over the coming weeks.

After a drastic surge of cases in December and January, we are finally seeing cases decrease rapidly in our community. We are grateful for your continued patience and understanding, and we look forward to brighter days ahead.

Sincerely,

Naonie Norman

Naomi Norman Superintendent

Cherie Vannatter Interim Deputy Superintendent