

## **BONITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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Superintendent Carl Coles –Superintendent

## Assistant Superintendents

Susan Cross Hume – Business Services Kevin Lee, Ed.D. – Human Resources Development Matthew Wien – Educational Services Board of Education Derek Bahmanou Chuck Coyne Glenn Creiman Jim Elliot Greg Palatto

March 1, 2022

Dear Bonita Unified Staff and Community,

As you may be aware, Gov. Gavin Newsom <u>announced on February 28</u> that all students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, would no longer be required to wear masks at school as of March 12, 2022.

Additionally, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) aligned with the State and will not require students and staff to wear masks at school as of March 12, 2022, regardless of vaccination status.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Bonita Unified School District has upheld its commitment to maintaining safe learning environments for students and staff without being more restrictive than the health orders from the federal, state, and local agencies that govern school operations. We will remain consistent in our adherence to the laws and health orders that govern our District.

In accordance with this commitment, as of Saturday, March 12, wearing masks on Bonita Unified campuses is not required and will be voluntary for students, employees, and visitors. Families are encouraged to determine what is right for them by discussing this change with their children and healthcare providers.

This change marks a significant milestone in moving from a pandemic response to an endemic approach. Recognizing that there are different viewpoints on masking, respect and empathy cannot be compromised. As each student, staff, and family chooses whether to mask at school or not, we must remain in solidarity in preparing every student to live their purpose.

Finally, at this time, there are no updates to report regarding existing testing or quarantine requirements. We will continue to follow all current protocols until they are changed. We will keep our students, staff, and community informed of any updates as soon as they become available.

Thank you for your partnership and support as we continue to navigate the updated K-12 protocols.

Sincerely,

Carl J. Coles Superintendent