

HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Robert J. Kartychak, Ed.D., Acting Superintendent



HOPEWELL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
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27 February 2022

Dear Hopewell Families,

On Friday evening, the CDC released updated guidance regarding COVID-19 as well as revised transmission metrics. Based on the updated information, Beaver County is now considered to be in the low transmission rate, thus making facial coverings optional while in District facilities for all staff, students, and visitors. Last week, the Hopewell School Board of Directors voted to make facial coverings optional but strongly recommended while Beaver County is in the high or substantial rate of transmission effective March 7th, however given Beaver County is now in the low transmission rate, facial coverings are at the individual's discretion effective tomorrow, February 28th. Furthermore, the CDC also shared that facial coverings are no longer required on school district buses or vans, effective tomorrow February 28th.

As of today, the Pennsylvania Department of Health has not provided any changes in their guidance. While the District waits for updates from the PA Department of Health, the updated CDC guidance, as well as subsequent updates from PA Department of Health will be included in a future revision of the District's Health and Safety Plan. Even with the change in facial coverings, there have not been changes in guidance regarding contact tracing, quarantining, or isolation from the CDC or PA Department of Health, as of today. Finally, should the District see a significant negative impact in any building, facial coverings may be required again for a period of time.

Please continue to remain proactive and if your child is not feeling well, keep them home. The district appreciates your flexibility as we continue to navigate these uncharted waters.

With Viking Pride-

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Kartychak". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Robert J. Kartychak, Ed.D.
Acting Superintendent