



BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-6J



Tom Satterly – Superintendent, Launa Monroe – Business Manager, Lindsay Smith– District Secretary

Dear Parents,

Beginning September 8, 2020, Burlington School District will require students in grades 5-12 to wear masks in school for so long as we are required to do so by the current Executive Order of Gov. Jared Polis. In addition, all adult staff will be required to wear masks.

While we believe that our schools opened with a sound plan to balance personal responsibility and take necessary steps to protect public health, the Board of Education has been advised that failure to uniformly enforce the mask mandate for students ages 11 and over, as well as adults, could place the school district in legal jeopardy.

Therefore, we have no choice but to require all students and staff at Burlington Middle School and Burlington High School to wear masks while in school until further notice. For anyone who has a bona fide medical condition for which wearing a mask would place them at risk of serious medical harm, the school will accept a letter signed by a qualified medical professional certifying that the individual cannot medically tolerate wearing a mask. (A copy of that form accompanies this letter.)

However, we are also working to achieve more flexibility to be able to continue in-person classes when a student or staff member tests positive for COVID. Under this procedure, if a person who has been at school tests positive and if school (and county health) officials believe the risk of exposure is low, the school may choose to resume in-person classes with little or no interruption while the affected individual and their sibling(s) stays home to reduce the risk of virus spread.

Finally, in order to protect the district, we will require all parents of students who will attend in-person classes to sign a “Waiver of Liability” stating that you are aware of risk that by coming to school your student could contract COVID-19 (or any other illness) that is communicated among students and staff. Any student whose parent or guardian does not sign the Waiver of Liability will be provided a remote learning option.

Burlington School District has implemented a Reopening Plan that enabled our schools to open in August. That plan explains the procedures being used to create a safe learning environment and minimize the risk of illness being spread at school. The plan, along with any updates, can be found on our website at <https://www.burlingtonk12.org/district/covid-19>.