

SOUTH BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Scott Feder
Superintendent of Schools

David E. Pawlowski
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary



Jennifer K. Diszler
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum,
Instruction and Administration
Kimberly Maloy-White
Assistant Superintendent for Human
Resources

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Good Evening Everyone,

I find myself reaching out to you, once again, to clarify a message from Trenton. The message that you may have heard from the state yesterday was once again issued with no coordination with the Department of Education with regard to wearing of masks in schools and has YET AGAIN been both incomplete and inaccurate. Today, we received clarifying guidance that made it clear that masks indoors, where there is not an extreme heat situation, are still required under the Governor's Executive Order 175. Below is the clarification that we received today from the DOE with regard to mask wearing.

*"Masking protocols outlined in Executive Order No. 175, which are aligned with current CDC recommendations, **remain in place**. The Order includes an exception to masking requirements outdoors during periods of extreme heat. Additionally, the Order includes an exception to masking protocols in situations where wearing a mask would inhibit an individual's health. Please be advised that the Governor has clarified that this indoor masking exception could reasonably be applied to situations in which a district determines, at its discretion [no air conditioning] and based on its assessment of the individual circumstances, **that a period of extreme heat warrants** students and staff to remove their masks while indoors to protect individual health. As always, unvaccinated individuals are strongly encouraged to continue wearing masks while participating in activities that include sustained contact with others, or when in a crowded setting."*

Therefore, we would like to reiterate to everyone that masks while indoors, in air conditioned spaces, which all of our schools are, still remain the directive of the Governor and the Department of Education. However, we are able to make slight modifications to Friday's communication and expand optional masking whenever outdoors.

- **Outdoor Recess and outdoor PE classes** - Students will not be required to wear masks. Students will still need to maintain social distancing.
- **Outdoors** - At this time, due to the extreme heat, masks will be optional for whenever outdoors.

I hope this is the last message that will need clarification, however I strongly doubt it, and appreciate your continued patience as we continue to receive mixed and confusing messaging from Trenton.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'Scott Feder', written over a horizontal line.

Scott
Superintendent of Schools