

March 11, 2022

## **EUSD Masks Policy Update**

Dear EUSD Community,

The safety of our students, staff, and families is our top priority, and we constantly implement strategies to provide the best learning environment for our community. Our district will continue to follow the safety guidelines from the state and county to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Recently, Governor Newsom announced updates to masking protocols in K-12 schools. The statewide indoor mask mandate for schools will expire at the end of Friday, March 11th. Beginning Monday, March 14th, the [California Department of Public Health](#) strongly recommends the wearing of masks on school campuses. As indicated by the CDPH, local health jurisdictions and entities may continue to implement additional requirements that go beyond this statewide guidance based on local circumstances.

Wearing a mask is a proven mitigation strategy against the spread of the coronavirus, along with testing and vaccination. Our city of Emeryville has one of the lowest vaccination rates in the county. Although overall Alameda County has experienced a decline in COVID-19 cases, the low vaccination rate in our city represents a decisive factor in our district's updated masking policy.

**Our school district will continue the use of masks indoors. Outdoor masking is optional for staff and students but strongly recommended.**

We will continue to monitor different factors such as rates of vaccination and cases of COVID-19, and we will make the appropriate modifications to our masking policy as needed.

We will continue implementing the COVID-19 prevention strategies that we are all familiar with, such as monitoring symptoms of illness, vaccination, and testing, with an emphasis on personal responsibility and respect. In addition, students and staff should continue to remain home when sick.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to keep our community safe as we transition to this new phase and adapt to the changing conditions of living with COVID-19. Our schools continue to be a safe learning environment for our students, and we appreciate your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Quiauna Scott  
Superintendent

Helpful links:

- [Center for Disease Control \(CDC\) website](#) and [Graphic](#)
- [Alameda County Public Health Department \(ACPHD\) COVID-19 website](#)

[Guidance for Schools from Alameda County Office of Education \(ACOE\) and Alameda County Public Health Department \(ACPHD\)](#)