

**UPPER ARLINGTON CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION
January 8, 2022**

WHEREAS, the Upper Arlington City School District Board of Education adopted a resolution regarding COVID-19 mitigation strategies on August 10, 2021 that set forth a requirement for universal indoor masking during the school day for students and staff in preschool through grade eight buildings, regardless of vaccination status, as well as for all passengers and drivers on all school transportation when required by applicable laws, health orders, and regulations;

WHEREAS, the Board extended the mask requirement at its September 3, 2021 meeting to include grades 9-12 effective September 7, 2021;

WHEREAS, the Board remains committed to considering the guidance from federal, state, and local health experts as well as the Superintendent's Medical Advisory Team as it relates to COVID-19 in order to maintain the most appropriate mitigation strategies for the safety of students, staff, and the school district community to provide our students a safe face-to-face classroom learning experience for the 2021-2022 school year;

WHEREAS, wearing masks has been proven to prevent the spread of respiratory droplets that are created when people talk, laugh, sing, cough and sneeze and the medical experts from the authorities referenced above advise that wearing masks combined with distancing is effective in slowing the spread of COVID-19 in schools;

WHEREAS, indoor exposure while in close contact represents the highest risk conditions for respiratory virus transmission;

WHEREAS, in order to safely continue to have indoor spectators and offer the typical experience of many of our non-instructional activities during winter months, universal mask wearing at all times of the day (not just during the school day) is strongly recommended;

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.67 authorizes boards of education to make and enforce such rules to prevent the spread of communicable diseases among the students attending or eligible to attend the schools if the district, as in its opinion the safety and interest of the public require;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Upper Arlington City School District Board of Education will expand its existing mask requirements to apply to all school buildings, regardless of the time of day, on a temporary basis beginning upon the adoption of this Resolution and continuing through February 8, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board's preschool through grade 12 mask requirement during the school day shall continue in effect throughout the 2021-2022 school year until such time as it is rescinded or modified by the Board;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board's extension of the preschool through grade 12 mask requirement to times outside of the school day shall expire after February 8, 2022 unless it is extended or modified by the Board.