



October 14, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

At the Wednesday, October 13 Board of Trustees' meeting, UCDSB trustees unanimously passed a motion that will require all Kindergarten students to wear masks while at school. **This will go into effect as of Monday, November 1, 2021.**

This means that Kindergarten students, in addition to our Grade 1-12 students, will need to wear a mask at all times while indoors. Students will be able to remove their masks for eating and when they are outside at recess.

Students will need to take their mask outside with them at recess so they have it for when they are ready to re-enter the school. Lanyards, fanny packs or always having a free pocket are solutions that other students have used to keep track of their masks while outside.

If your child is not used to wearing a mask, have them practice putting a mask on and off on their own, and try wearing a mask for part of the day at school or while at home.

The UCDSB recognizes that, for reasons related to disability, it may not be possible for some students to wear a non-medical mask at school. In these cases, parents and guardians should speak to their school principal.

The health and safety of our students is a priority and as we continue onward through this pandemic, we want to do all that we can to keep our students well. Having Kindergarten students wear masks was strongly recommended by both Dr. Paul Roumeliotis, Chief Medical Officer of Health with the Eastern Ontario Health Unit and Dr. Paula Stewart, Chief Medical Officer of Health for the Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit, indicating there are no negative health risks for our youngest students to wear masks and that it will provide them with more protection. Other school boards in our area have taken similar steps.

Thank you for your continued support as we continue to move forward through this pandemic. Should you have any questions about this, please reach out to your school principal directly.

Thank you,
Ron Ferguson
Director of Education

John McAllister
Chair of the Board



Ron Ferguson
Director of Education