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October 1, 2021

## Dear Bulldog Families,

I am writing to provide you with an important update related to protective facial coverings. On September 17, 2021 under OFCS School Board Policy <u>8450.01</u>, I continued to keep the masking policy in place. In that <u>letter</u> to you I indicated that the mask requirement would be in effect until it is lifted, and that the decision would be re-evaluated on October 1, 2021. This communication is to inform you that *the protective facial covering requirement will remain in effect during the hours of school operation*, and that it will be re-evaluated again on <u>Friday</u>, <u>October 15, 2021</u> to determine what our course of action will be for the school week that begins on Monday, October 18, 2021.

The data and sources that were used to aid in this decision are located in the table below. The data obtained originates from the CDC's COVID Data Tracker website and the Ohio Department of Health's Cases by Zip Code. Data are not reported in real time as there is always a lag between what actually exists and what has been reported.

Data Points	Previous Data Point (9/17/21)	Most Current Data Point (10/1/21)*
New Cases in CuyCo (past 2 weeks)*	3,241	2,970
New Cases in 44138 (past 2 weeks)*	68	58
Case Rate in CuyCo*	262.41	240.47
Case Rate in 44138*	303.9	259.2
PCR % in CuyCo*	8.82%	8.74%
PCR % in LorCo*	14.26%	10.82%
OFCSD Data ( <u>link</u> )	<u>Cases</u> : 37 Students, 4 staff <u>Exclusions</u> : 110 Students, 1 staff	Cases: 10 students, 7 staff Exclusions: 13 Students, 0 Staff

<sup>\*</sup>These numbers represent a snapshot and are the most current numbers available on the date of consideration (in this case, 10/1/21).

There is good news in these numbers. The trend is now heading in the right direction and we may very well be on the down trend that would result in masks becoming optional.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

James L. Lloyd

Jim Lloyd, Ed.D. Superintendent