



# *Marshfield Public Schools*

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Director of Special Education / Pupil Personnel

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Dear MPSD Families & Staff,

On Wednesday, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) imposed a statewide mask mandate for all students ages 5 and up in Massachusetts public schools. Accordingly, and until further notice, all MPSD students, grades PK-12, (along with all staff and visitors) are required to wear masks on buses, while inside MPSD Public School buildings, and while attending school-sponsored indoor activities. Students will be provided mask breaks throughout the day, and masks will not be required during lunch while students are eating. Students will not be required to wear masks during outdoor recess, if applicable, or while outside of the buildings for any other reason.

A failure to adhere to this masking requirement will be treated as a school-readiness matter, just as if a student had arrived at school inappropriately dressed or otherwise not in a condition to attend school in a manner that is safe for the student and others in the building. As such, a student who does not comply with this requirement will meet with the building Principal or designee, to discuss whether the student can come into compliance and return to class in a manner that is safe for all. If necessary, the student's parent or guardian will be contacted. Students may be subject to progressive discipline for deliberate non-compliance.

Requests for student exemptions will be considered based on the existence of a documented medical or behavioral issue, which might be aggravated by the wearing of a mask. Such requests must be accompanied by a note from your child's physician and documentation may be subject to further review by a member of the Districts' Health Safety Team (Nurse Director, School Nurse and/or the School Physician) and Superintendent of Schools. Until such a student exemption request has been received by your child's building principal and has been reviewed and approved, masks need to be worn on buses/vans and in school.

Thank you all for your understanding and for your assistance with DESE's face covering / masking mandates.

Sincerely,  
Jeffrey W. Granatino  
Superintendent