

**CINCINNATI PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**A RESOLUTION TO MAINTAIN THE REQUIREMENT  
TO WEAR MASKS AT THE START OF THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education adopted Policy 5321 – Requirement to Wear Masks to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19, on August 12, 2020, prior to the beginning of the 2020-21 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, Cincinnati Public Schools was one of the first school districts in the state to adopt a mandatory mask policy, and its policy was replicated by many school districts throughout Ohio; and

**WHEREAS**, the District’s universal mask policy—along with many of the other precautions implemented during the 2020-21 school year—were one of the primary reasons that schools had minimal community transmission of COVID-19 within the schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended on July 27, 2021, that “everyone in K through 12 schools wear a mask indoors, including teachers, staff, students and visitors, regardless of vaccination status;” and

**WHEREAS**, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center recommends that all students returning to school should wear masks, noting that most younger children will not be eligible for the vaccination in the near future;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Cincinnati City School District will maintain its Board Policy 5321 – Requirement to Wear Masks to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 for the beginning of the 2021-22 school year. Consistent with that policy, all persons entering inside a school or building owned or controlled by the District must wear a facial covering over their nose and mouth. Consistent with changes to CDC guidance, the Policy shall not require masks to be worn when students, staff, or visitors are outside.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Board of Education may consider suspending or rescinding the mandatory mask policy should the transmission of COVID-19 significantly decrease and if all students become eligible for vaccinations.

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