

412 S. Sweigle Avenue  
P.O. Box 188  
Molalla, Oregon 97038  
503-829-2359

Tony Mann, Superintendent

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February 19, 2022

Dear MRSD Families,

During this Thursday's School Board Meeting, the School Board passed a resolution making masks optional in the Molalla River School District effective March 3rd, prior to the statewide change to the universal masking requirement in K-12 schools.

On January, 28, 2022, Oregon Department of Education issued written direction to all Oregon superintendents stating [school districts](#) "... cannot serve a student in-person if they or their family choose not to wear a face covering. Schools may offer a remote or online school option for the student."

The collective mission of our schools is to provide students a safe, supportive learning environment free from disruptions to the learning process. We have a duty to maintain order in our schools, protecting every student's right to a safe and disruption-free public education.

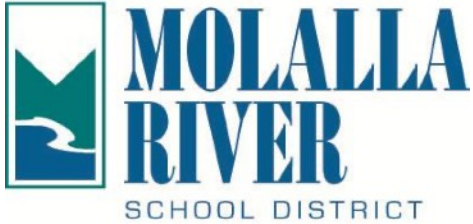
During the board meeting, public comment was made asking the Board what school attendance will look like relative to masking during the transition time period. The Board Chair advised that during the transition between today and March 3rd, students and staff will be required to wear masks.

To this end, we are communicating this reminder that all persons entering Molalla River School District schools must follow the universal mask requirements that remain in place. The district will address any willful non-compliance of the universal masking requirement. Adults refusing to wear a mask will be asked to leave the building, and students refusing to wear a mask will not be allowed to learn in-person at school. In summary, there are two options for students during the transition:

- 1) Students **may attend** school for in-person instruction while continuing to **wear a mask** under the current rules. Should a student forget their mask, we will have masks available as we have in the past.
- 2) If a student chooses **not to wear a mask** at school during this transition, the Oregon Department of Education declares the school **cannot provide** in-person instruction and students are **not to report** to school. Together with their parent(s)/ guardian(s), they will be able to work with their principal on alternative access to course materials/school assignments from home.

Students will only be excused from school with parent written permission.

Protests may not occur on school property and are required to remain in public spaces. Protests must not interfere with the safe operation of school, including entrance and egress.



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We believe every day matters, and we look forward to working together during this time of transition as a school community.

Please talk with your student(s) prior to the start of the school on Tuesday to ensure that these expectations are clear.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Mann".

Tony Mann  
Superintendent

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Lucht".

Mark Lucht  
MRSD Board Chair