

## **Holly Area Schools**

## Excellence in Action!

Feb. 11, 2022

Dear Holly Area Schools Families and Staff,

Holly Area Schools received the announcement this morning that the Oakland County Health Division (OCHD) is lifting the mask mandate for schools and daycares on Feb. 28.

Holly Area Schools will support our Broncho families and staff to make the personal choice of wearing a mask at our school buildings beginning Monday, February 28, 2022.

I know this news will come as a relief to many of our students, families and staff, and a disappointment to others. Just as we have been committed to following the mask mandate, we also remain committed to following the direction of the health department with the rescinding of the current emergency order.

The current mandate from August 2021, targeted at the Delta Variant, required students, teachers and staff to wear a face covering in order to slow the transmission of COVID-19. According to OCHD, several factors were reviewed to determine the appropriate time to end the mask requirement in schools, including a sharp decline in new COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations and increasing vaccination rates in Oakland County.

"As we see our critical measures of vaccinations, hospital admissions, and cases moving in a direction that tell us the COVID-19 impact on our community is greatly improving, the time is right to remove the mask order for daycares and educational institutions," Health Division Medical Director Dr. Russell Faust said.

Several states and counties have been making similar announcements in the recent days. In addition, more information has become available in the past weeks about nonmedical loose-fitting masks no longer being recommended by the CDC for prevention.

We very much appreciate your continued support, understanding and patience throughout this school year. The health, safety and security of our students, staff and families is our number one priority. We have remained committed to pivoting when necessary and keeping our families apprised of important updates in our efforts to provide a safe, nurturing learning environment for all Bronchos.

As always, it is a true honor to serve as your Superintendent.

#BronchoStrong #BronchosUnited

Sincerely,

Scott M. Roper, Superintendent