

# **SALISBURY-ELK LICK SCHOOL DISTRICT**

P.O. BOX 68, 196 SMITH AVENUE, SALISBURY, PA 15558

Elementary/Superintendent's Office: (814) 662-2733 / Fax (814) 662-2544

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**Mr. Jason Collier**  
High School Principal

**Mr. Joseph Renzi**  
Superintendent  
Elementary Principal  
Federal Programs Coord.

**Ms. Brenda Krause**  
Business Manager

**Miss Jacqueline Palmer**  
School Counselor

**Mrs. Jodi Janidlo**  
Board Secretary

September 3, 2021

SELSD Parent/Guardian,

As you are aware, Governor Wolfe issued a mask mandate for public schools on August 31, 2021 that goes into effect on Tuesday, September 7, 2021. Our school understands that this mandate is being met with both praise and criticism. We understand that our constituency has strong opinions on both sides of this issue, but we hope that all of our parents, students, teachers, and staff remain together and committed to the fact that our goal is to provide the best education for our students in a safe learning environment. This mandate does not change the fact that in-person learning for students is the best way to provide students with an education that focuses on their academic, social, emotional, and extracurricular needs.

This new order has exceptions for students who would prefer to wear a face shield as opposed to a mask. This is the way we started last school year and it worked very well.

The new order has eligible exceptions listed, specifically in Section 4(A)(4) which states "a school entity must provide reasonable accommodations for individuals who *state* they have a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that makes it unreasonable for the person to maintain a face covering. There is a form that was sent home to all elementary students with this letter and is on our school website for any parent of a high school student to complete to request an exemption. This form can be completed and returned to the school on September 7, 2021 with such a request for exemption. If a form is not turned in, your child will be expected to wear a face covering.

One change this year is that face masks for students does minimize the radius used to measure who may need to be quarantined using the guidance from CDC and DOH. Therefore, if the majority of students are wearing a face mask, they are helping one another by reducing their own risk of being excluded from school due to contact tracing.

The most important thing I would like to share with our parents and our community is that our teachers and students returned this fall with the desire to learn and most importantly be together for learning. We had challenges in the first week, both health related and weather, and they will continue throughout the school year, but nothing should deter from the fact that this school is here for our students. We want to give them what they need to grow, develop, and mature in order to be successful. We ask that we all work together for the good of our students.

  
Joseph Renzi