



**WASHINGTON  
TOWNSHIP  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**BRASS CASTLE SCHOOL**  
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Jessica L. Garcia, PRINCIPAL

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Keith T. Neuhs, SUPERINTENDENT

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Jessica K. McDonagh, PRINCIPAL

March 4, 2022

Dear Parents & Guardians,

As a reminder, beginning Monday, March 7, 2022, the Washington Township School District will be a masking optional environment. On Monday, students, staff, and visitors to district buildings will have the option to wear / not wear a mask, regardless of their vaccination status. Recently, the CDC has changed recommendations for masking on school buses and as such, students and staff will have the option to mask / not mask on school transportation starting on Monday.

In addition to moving to a masking optional environment, the following changes to district COVID-19 procedures will be implemented on Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>:

- Students who test positive for COVID-19 will be excluded from school for at least five full days. Students may return to school on day six, but must wear a mask for days 6-10. If a student chooses not to mask during this period, they must be excluded from school for ten days. Students must be symptom free to return to school on days 6-10.
- Students who present with COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home. The school nurse will provide families with requirements for returning to school.
- Unvaccinated close contacts of household members who have tested positive for COVID-19 will be required to quarantine. School nurses will provide quarantine requirements to affected students.
- Plastic desk shields will be removed from classrooms in time for class on Monday. A student may request to have a plastic desk shield put in place at any time.
- The district will be a mask-optional environment. Please share with your child if you would like them to wear a mask during the school day. Staff members will not be responsible for student compliance of masking options. Individuals should make masking decisions based on their specific situations. All students, staff and visitors must respect the individual decisions of others as to whether to mask or not.

Although the COVID activity rate has steadily declined, an increase in COVID activity may require adjustments to our district protocols. In the event that the Governor, NJDOH, NJDOE, and /or the Warren County Department of Health reinstate COVID requirements, the district will respond accordingly.

To maintain the health and safety of all school community members, it is essential to keep symptomatic students and siblings at home. If you have a question as to whether your student(s) should go to school, keep them home and contact the school nurse. The school nurse will be able to assist you and determine if your student(s) should come to school.

Thank you for your partnership regarding to the COVID-19 protocols that have been put in place during this period of the pandemic and for assisting our schools in providing a safe and healthy environment for all our students.

Sincerely,

Keith Neuhs  
Superintendent