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11/10/2021

Dear West Chester Area School District,

The Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania issued a ruling today which overturns the August 31, 2021 statewide order of the Pennsylvania Secretary of Health that all Pennsylvania schools require face coverings indoors. Governor Wolf and the Pennsylvania Health Department indicate that they are in the process of preparing an appeal and may request a stay of the Commonwealth Court decision during the appeal.

As the appellate process plays out, the decision to require masks in schools would still be subject to the Health and Safety Plan of each individual school district. Our current [Health and Safety Plan](#) states masks are required when our District is in High, Substantial, or Moderate transmission rates, with masks recommended when we are in a Low transmission rate. As we are currently in a “High” transmission rate, masks are still required inside our schools.

We know that masking is an issue which has caused much controversy across the state, and we are sensitive to all concerns. We will communicate as we learn more about this issue as it continues to evolve.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bob Sokolowski, Superintendent