



ORCUTT Union School District

Where a Dedicated Staff Means Kids Come First

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February 28, 2022

Hello Orcutt Union School District Community,

I would like to share an update with you about the mask requirement for students in schools.

As you may have heard, Governor Newsom earlier today made an announcement about ending mandatory masking in schools.

As of midnight on March 11, 2022, face coverings no longer will be required for students in school settings.

The first school day this would be in effect is Monday, March 14. If any school related activities such as athletic events are scheduled to take place after midnight on March 11th, those activities fall under the new guidance.

We do expect to receive updated K-12 Schools Guidance to address additional areas that will be affected by this change.

These areas include required testing for our athletes that participate in indoor sports, the modified quarantine requirements that require testing of close contacts to stay in school, and how CalOSHA, which sets the guidance for our employees, will address these changes.

We will continue to inform you as these shifts take place, especially if your student is affected by them.

We also understand that masks will still be required for mass transit, and this may effect our school buses both for daily transportation as well as field trips.

We expect to receive more information on this in the coming days and will keep you informed.

I would like to say thank you to our entire Orcutt community for your patience and grace as we have navigated this pandemic together.

None of this has been easy, for anyone and our entire community has been affected in so many ways.

As our state shifts from a pandemic to an endemic phase, and moves toward managing the COVID-19 virus instead of eradicating it, we will continue to adjust our safety protocols to meet the current guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department.

I continue to be proud of our community and how we have rallied and responded to this public health crisis, and feel incredibly fortunate to live here and raise my own children here.

Orcutt is a very special place, and we will continue to thrive as a school district because of each of you and the amazing students we have the honor of serving.

Sincerely,

Dr. Holly Edds
Superintendent