



8/30/21

Parents,

As you may be aware, the following directive was issued from New York State late Friday evening:

"Effective immediately, in accordance with the Commissioner's Determination issued pursuant to 10 NYCRR 2.60, any person over the age of 2 (including all students, personnel, teachers, administrators, contractors, and visitors) must wear masks at all times indoors in P-12 school buildings, regardless of vaccination status."

While this is not the news we were hoping for, the district continues to adjust its plan accordingly. We consider this plan to be a living document that will need adjusting as we approach the first day of school and progress through the 2021-22 school year. At Tioga Central, all students will be returning to in-person learning five days a week. We are closely monitoring community data and infection rates and are in close contact with local officials to receive the most up-to-date information related to the COVID-19 virus. We continue to partner with the Tioga County Health Department to do contact tracing for any potential positive cases.

Our plan to begin the 2021-22 school year will be as follows:

- Anyone entering district buildings, including students and staff, will be required to wear masks.
- Wearing masks outside will be optional.
- Masks will be required on buses. This will allow buses to operate at normal capacity and return to a single bus run.
- Physical distancing will be practiced whenever and wherever possible inside our buildings.
- Co-curricular (athletics, music, arts & clubs) activities will be offered with protocols in place.
- There will be no remote learning option offered at Tioga Central Schools.

We recognize the frustration the seemingly constant changing guidance brings, but will do our best to communicate future changes with you. Please continue to be patient as we work together to best serve the students. The district is prepared to make any adjustments as guidance changes from state and local agencies. As has been our goal from the beginning, our plan is to provide every student the very best in-person education with safety being a top priority. The vigilance of our entire community will help protect our students by keeping local transmission low. Again, the overall goal for the 2021-22 school year is to maximize in-person teaching and learning, be responsive to student needs, and keep students and staff healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

Joshua Roe
Superintendent