

February 28, 2022

Masking Mandate in Schools Lifted Effective End-of-Day on March 11, 2022

Hello SVUSD Community,

Today, [Governor Newsom released new masking guidance](#) for our schools. **Effective Friday, March 11, 2022, at 11:59 p.m., masking will be recommended, but no longer required, for indoor settings at our schools.** This guidance is for both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.

Beginning Saturday, March 12, 2022, on-campus activities will no longer require masking.

The first day of in-class instruction with recommended, but not required, masking will be Monday, March 14, 2022:

- Indoor masking will be optional for all students and staff.
- SVUSD schools will continue to provide **optional** masks for students and staff.

We acknowledge that this new guidance is welcome news for some families and staff members, while for others, it is a source of concern. SVUSD will continue to follow safety guidance and mitigation protocols from CDPH and OCHCA, along with strongly respecting the masking choice of each individual.

Saddleback Valley Unified School District (SVUSD) will provide updates to our community regarding testing, quarantine, vaccination, and volunteers as revised information becomes available.

SVUSD has remained steadfast in its commitment to the safety of our students and staff since the first days of the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on our schools. As required by law, SVUSD has continuously aligned its COVID-19 safety protocols with public health directives from Governor Newsom, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and the Orange County Health Care Agency (OCHCA).

We thank our SVUSD community for cooperating with all safety protocols throughout the landscape of the pandemic. Working together, we have been able to keep our schools open and our students have benefitted from in-person instruction.

Indoor masking does remain a requirement for students and staff until the new guidance goes into effect on Saturday, March 12. We ask for the support and patience of our SVUSD community as we move into this next phase toward a return to normalcy.

Sincerely,

Dr. Crystal Turner
Superintendent
Saddleback Valley Unified School District