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To: [SaGurney, Pamela](#)
Subject: District Updates
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Dear Southwestern Families:

Today Governor Hochul announced that New York State will lift the mask mandate for schools on Wednesday, March 2, 2022. The wearing of a mask to school will be optional for staff and students starting Wednesday. The choice to wear a mask is at the discretion of the individual staff/student/guardian. We will support any staff or student who continue to wear a mask in school.

We anticipate further guidance coming to schools in the next two days from NYSED. All current protocols including quarantines, close contacts, and Test to Stay remain in place at this time. It is still required to report all positive test results as well as please keep any symptomatic students at home. We continue to have a supply of COVID home tests for any staff and/or student.

Thank you for your support and patience as we navigate this change. Masks are still required for Monday and Tuesday.

Have a great night and we look forward to having everyone back in school.

Mrs. Donahue

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