

WHITEHALL CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Good Evening,

February 9, 2022

At an early afternoon press conference today, Governor Hochul indicated that the statewide indoor mask mandate will be repealed, effective tomorrow. However, she further noted that the mask mandate for schools and certain other congregate settings will remain in effect.

The Governor indicated that following the February school recess period, the state will evaluate metrics such as: (1) cases per 100,000; (2) percent positivity; (3) hospital admissions; (4) pediatric hospitalizations; (5) vaccinations; and (6) global trends, to determine next steps regarding universal masking in schools.

I know that this is not the announcement we were hoping for today. Please know that this is not a district, county, or BOCES wide decision. This is a mandate directly from the Governor's Office and Department of Health. All New York State schools are required to comply in order to operate.

As more information becomes available, I will do my best to keep you informed as possible.

As always, I appreciate your patience, and support as we work through this time together.

Sincerely,



Patrick Dee

Superintendent of schools