



Dr. Stu Cameron
Superintendent of Schools

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October 7, 2020

Dear Spartan Families:

I want to thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate the ever-changing landscape of this school year. Yesterday, I sent a communication to families regarding my efforts to collect all available information regarding recent mask mandates for students in grades BK-5. In that communication, I told families that as soon as I felt I had satisfied that effort, that I would communicate the district's direction regarding BK-5 masking.

Today, I've received definitive information from legal experts that I've been able to pair with information from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) via the order issued on October 5, 2020. I've heard from local health officials, as well. Based on those communications, we understand the following:

- The Supreme Court's opinion does not invalidate the MDHHS' COVID-related order.
- The order requires schools to ensure the wearing of face coverings by all children in our schools ages five and older.
- The willful failure to follow a valid MDHHS order may result in civil and criminal sanctions and fines.
- Health officials feel that additional masking at the onset of cold and flu season may avert the spread of these illnesses which tend to look like COVID, but are not. Doing so *may* help prevent extensive, unnecessary, quarantining of individuals or groups of students, and may assist in keeping classrooms, grades, and buildings open through cold and flu season.

As you can see, our direction is clear. In order to fully comply with the law AND to attempt safeguard our ongoing operations and ability to offer face-to-face instruction, we will implement the face-covering mandate for students in grades BK-5 beginning on **Thursday, October 8**.

Know that we will be careful and reasonable in the application of this practice. I will be working with administrators and teachers to assure that students are provided frequent "mask breaks" that are safe for all students and adhere to our Back to School Preparedness Plan measures.

I know that our students will adapt with the support of the adults around them. I'm asking for your positive support as well, as I believe it will make all the difference in assuring the success of this endeavor.

Once again, thank you for your understanding and for your support.

Best regards,


Dr. Stu Cameron



Imlay City High School has been selected as one of America's Best High Schools in the United States and awarded a Bronze medal by *U.S. News & World Report*, the nation's leading source of news analysis and service journalism. More than 18,500 high schools in 40 states were analyzed. Only 1,591 high schools in the United States met *U.S. News & World Report's* criteria for excellence.



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Estimadas familias espartanas:

Quiero agradecerles por su paciencia y comprensión mientras navegamos por el panorama cambiante de este año escolar. Ayer, envié una comunicación a las familias con respecto a mis esfuerzos para recopilar toda la información disponible sobre los mandatos recientes de máscaras para estudiantes en los grados BK-5. En esa comunicación, les dije a las familias que tan pronto como sintiera que había satisfecho ese esfuerzo, les comunicaría la dirección del distrito con respecto al enmascaramiento BK-5.

Hoy, recibí información definitiva de expertos legales que pude emparejar con información del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de Michigan (MDHHS) a través de la orden emitida el 5 de octubre de 2020. Escuché de salud local funcionarios, también. Con base en esas comunicaciones, entendemos lo siguiente:

- La opinión de la Corte Suprema no invalida la orden relacionada con COVID del MDHHS.
- La orden requiere que las escuelas se aseguren de que todos los niños de nuestras escuelas de cinco años o más usen cubiertas faciales.
- El incumplimiento deliberado de una orden válida del MDHHS puede resultar en sanciones y multas civiles y penales.
- Los funcionarios de salud creen que el enmascaramiento adicional al inicio de la temporada de resfriados y gripe puede evitar la propagación de estas enfermedades que tienden a parecerse a COVID, pero no lo son. Hacerlo puede ayudar a prevenir la cuarentena extensa e innecesaria de individuos o grupos de estudiantes, y puede ayudar a mantener abiertos los salones de clases, las calificaciones y los edificios durante la temporada de resfriados y gripe.

Como puede ver, nuestra dirección es clara. Para cumplir plenamente con la ley Y para intentar salvaguardar nuestras operaciones en curso y la capacidad de ofrecer instrucción cara a cara, implementaremos el mandato de cubrir la cara para los estudiantes en los grados BK-5 **a partir del jueves 8 de octubre.**

Sé que nuestros estudiantes se adaptarán con el apoyo de los adultos que los rodean. También pido su apoyo positivo, ya que creo que marcará la diferencia para asegurar el éxito de este esfuerzo.

Una vez más, gracias por su comprensión y su apoyo.

Atentamente,

Dr. Stu Cameron



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