

Buena Vista City Public Schools



ANTHONY FRANCIS, ED.D
Division Superintendent

GENNIFER MILLER, ED.D
Assistant Superintendent

TERESA ELLISON
School Board Chairman

SANDRA MOHLER
Clerk of the School Board

February 18, 2022

Dear BVCPS Families,

On Wednesday, February 16, Governor Glenn Youngkin [signed Senate Bill 739](#) into law. It removes all school mask requirements for students in Virginia effective March 1, 2022.

As a result, the Buena Vista City Public Schools will transition to a mask-optional learning environment for all students in our buildings, effective February 21, 2022. This change does not prevent students who wish to wear a mask from doing so in our school buildings.

In making this transition, we will focus on maintaining a positive and welcoming learning environment in which students feel comfortable wearing or not wearing a mask.

It is important to note that, per [federal regulations](#), students will need to continue wearing masks on school buses. All staff members will also be required to wear masks in our buildings, per Virginia Department of Labor and Industry guidelines.

As a school division, we will continue to review and update our mitigation strategies to keep our staff and students safe and our schools open for the remainder of the school year. As always, thank you for your flexibility, support, and understanding as we navigate the many challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony Francis".

Anthony Francis
Superintendent of Schools