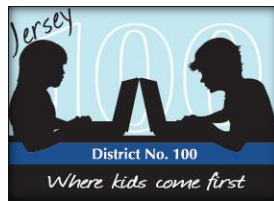


Brad Tuttle  
Superintendent



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**Board of Education**  
Greg Brown, President  
Peggy Perdun, Vice President  
Stan Kary, Secretary  
David Bryden  
Andrew Carey  
Kyle Graham  
Jacob Warford

August 6, 2021

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Dear Parent or Guardian,

Wednesday afternoon, Illinois Governor Pritzker announced that masks will be required for students, teachers and staff from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade schools. The new measure is part of the state's ongoing effort to combat a new surge of COVID-19 as the delta variant rapidly spreads. This mandate requires everyone to wear masks in our buildings.

The mask requirement is inclusive of youth sports and activities, with masks now required for all indoor extracurriculars and sports. In line with CDC guidance, masks are not required for activities outdoors where transmission risks and rates are lower.

The delta variant is causing us to look at the *Back to School Plan* in a fluent way and starting school similar to the plan we successfully operated under last year. We plan on offering in-person learning five days a week for the students that choose in-person learning and cooperate with the state mandates. We expect this plan to be more fluent as we communicate with our local health department and receive state mandates as we move this through this school year.

We expect that IDPH (Illinois Department of Public Health) and ISBE (Illinois State Board of Education) will follow up on Governor Pritzker's mandate with some guidance on alternate/remote education opportunities for families that have concerns with attending in person due to the increased delta variant and/or families with concerns about mask mandates for their students.

We will not have a special board meeting next Monday, August 9th. We ask for your support and cooperation as we prepare to start the school year while we make revisions to last year's plan. Parents should be thinking ahead for how to respond to children being quarantined and/or temporary closures of classrooms, grade levels, school buildings, etc. While we are planning ahead, and trying to anticipate issues as this pandemic continues to evolve, we will also be responding to conditions as they develop.

We will continue to share additional information as it becomes available to us. In addition, we will continue to monitor updated guidance, along with regional and local conditions over the next several days as we make revisions to last year's plan before school starts.

Thank you for your support of our students. We look forward to a new school year!