



eStem Families,

Effective Monday, August 9th, face coverings/masks will be required for all persons (students, staff, and visitors) while they are inside our school buildings. Exceptions will be made when students are eating or participating in an organized physical activity. If your child does not come to school with a face covering or mask on Monday, a mask will be provided by the school.

In April, the eStem Board of Directors approved our Ready for Learning Plan for the 2021-2022 school year. That plan included a requirement that all persons must wear face coverings/masks when they are inside our school buildings. Upon the passage of Act 1002 by the Arkansas Legislature, we modified the language in our plan from face coverings being "required" to being "strongly encouraged" in order to be in compliance with the law.

As you may have heard, in response to a lawsuit filed by several public school parents in the state, a judge has placed an injunction on the enforcement of Act 1002. This action is temporary pending a full hearing on the legality of Act 1002, thus we do not know what the ultimate outcome of the suit will be.

While we await the court's ruling, we are reinstating our board-approved plan requiring face coverings/masks at eStem. We will continue to do everything in our power to provide a safe environment for our students.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Bacon', written in a cursive style.

John Bacon, Ed. D.

Chief Executive Officer