



Richmond-Burton CHSD 157  
Nippersink SD 2

*Office of the Superintendent*

4213 US HWY 12 Richmond, IL Phone: (815)678-4242



February 17, 2022

Dear District 2 and District 157 families,

Over the past days, we have evaluated the Appellate Court decision, recent decisions from the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (J-CAR) and our current situation as a District. After further consideration and discussions on the mandate requiring face masks in schools, both District 2 and District 157 will continue to make the wearing of a face mask optional. The District strongly supports a family's right to decide what is best for their student.

Both Boards of Education, school administration and staff ask that students and families respect the choice each individual may make when deciding to wear or not wear a face mask. Any bullying or harassment toward a student or staff member based on their individual or family choice will not be tolerated.

In addition to masking, mandatory exclusions from school for close contacts and mandatory weekly testing for unvaccinated staff will no longer take place. However, we would like to remind parents to keep symptomatic students' home to prevent the potential spread of Covid-19.

Finally, both District 2 and District 157 will continue to monitor the spread of Covid-19 in our schools and will report weekly case numbers on our Districts' websites. Once again, we want to thank the students, staff, and families for all your patience and support over the last two years. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact your student's principal or me at [tlind@rbchs.com](mailto:tlind@rbchs.com).

Sincerely,

*Tom Lind*

Dr. Tom Lind  
Superintendent of Schools