



REED CITY AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Every Student, Every Day... Commit, Succeed, and Lead

Administrative Office

225 W. Church Avenue, Suite A • Reed City, MI 49677
Phone 231.832.2201 Fax 231.832.2202 www.reedcityschools.org

September 30, 2020

Dear GT Norman Elementary Parents/Guardians,

On Friday afternoon, Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed Michigan Executive Order No. 2020-185 as an Amendment to the Provision of pre-K–12 education for the 2020–2021 school year order. This newly adopted executive order has two important changes that must be implemented by all Michigan school districts no later than Monday, October 5, 2020.

The first section of this newly adopted order expands the state-mandated requirement to wear a facial mask in the classroom to all students in grades kindergarten and up. Currently, Reed City Area Public Schools has been following our published Return to Learning Plan which requires all students in grades 5-12 to wear facial masks anytime the student is utilizing district transportation, inside of the school building hallways and gathering areas, and when inside of the classroom learning environment. Students in grades K-4 have been wearing facial masks when utilizing district transportation and when inside of the school building hallways and gathering areas. However, following the previous State of Michigan Safe Schools Roadmap criterion, elementary students are currently not mandated to wear a facial mask when inside of the classroom learning environment.

The second section of the executive order relates to district communication and tracking of COVID-19 related data. The EO states that “School districts and nonpublic schools must publish information about any cases of a probable or confirmed COVID-19 positive individual present on school property or at a school function during the period of infection.” A COVID-19 Dashboard is being created to share timely and accurate COVID-19 related data within all the buildings. The Dashboard will be available on the District website and the information will be updated daily.

GT Norman Elementary School is transitioning to this newly mandated change in facial mask policy so that we don’t have an abrupt change on October 5th. I can assure all parents that students in grades K-4 will have opportunities throughout each day to take mask breaks at appropriate times. If you have any questions regarding the updated facial mask requirements, please contact your child’s building principal, Mrs. Goodman.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Sweet
Superintendent