FREWSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

26 Institute Street - P.O. Box 690 - Frewsburg, New York 14738 (716) 569-7000

June 5, 2021

Dear Parents.

As you are likely aware, late Friday afternoon, Governor Cuomo announced that New York has informed the CDC that on Monday, June 7, the state intends to align school and camp mask guidance unless the CDC produces data or science that contradicts moving forward with this approach. Barring any contradiction from the CDC, state-wide guidance issued will be as follows:

 Indoors, mask use will be strongly encouraged but not required for students, campers, and staff/teachers/counselors who are not fully vaccinated.

 Outdoors, masks are not required; students, campers, and staff/teachers/counselors who are not fully vaccinated are "encouraged" to wear a mask in certain higher-risk circumstances.

o Both indoors and outdoors, students, campers, and staff who are fully vaccinated do not need to wear masks.

• Schools and camps may choose to implement stricter standards.

While many are celebrating this information, we once again ask for your patience as we wait for official guidance. Right now, the CDC recommends all students and staff wear masks at schools, so we are unsure how this will unfold.

As always, the district will follow a systematic process in order to make an educated decision regarding masks. The first step is to receive official guidance from NYSDOH. Keeping the safety of our students in mind, our district will be consulting with the Chautauqua County Health Department and our Medical Director as the second step. Thirdly, given the weight of this decision, all stakeholders will be consulted. The Board of Education, faculty, support staff, and parents need to be given the opportunity to express thoughts.

Please note that although this unexpected announcement came with only two weeks left in the school year, once the official guidance is received, the district will act as quickly as possible to issue further communication announcing mask expectations. Until that time, we will continue to follow the policy regarding masks that is currently in place. Students and adults will continue to wear masks while on school property.

The safety of our students and staff is very important to us. Thank you in advance for your patience as we ensure that the Frewsburg Central School District continues to work collaboratively with you, maintains adherence to the many regulations and guidelines, and follows a systematic process for decision making.

Sincerely,

Shelly O'Boyle Superintendent

Shelly M. DiSople