



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**State of Michigan  
State Board of Education**

**Mask Mandate Resolution**

WHEREAS, Michigan has the fifth-highest number of cumulative COVID-19 cases among children, according to data reported by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP);

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has elevated Michigan's risk for community spread of COVID-19 to substantial, meaning the state is now falling in the category where we should all wear masks indoors, regardless of vaccination status;

WHEREAS, the number of hospitalizations related to COVID-19 among adolescents in the United States was about three times greater than hospitalizations linked to influenza over three recent flu seasons, according to a study published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Friday;

WHEREAS, COVID-19, unlike influenza, is linked to Multi-system inflammation syndrome (MIS-C), a serious condition that causes dangerous inflammation in parts of the body like the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, or GI organs. It can show up weeks after a child's been infected with the coronavirus;

WHEREAS, state and national authorities, including Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the CDC, the American Medical Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics all recommend a layered prevention strategies approach;

WHEREAS, the CDC recently modified its Guidance for Prevention of COVID-19 in K-12 Schools and Early Childhood/Child Care Settings, recommending universal masking indoors at all school facilities and events, for students, teachers, staff and all school visitors, regardless of vaccination status;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan State Board of Education supports local school districts' ability to make scientifically informed decisions, including mandates for universal masking on buses and indoors at all school facilities and events, for students, teachers, staff and all school visitors, regardless of vaccination status.

Adopted August 10, 2021

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