COVID-19 Mask Protocol for 2021-22 Updated 7/27/21

There are several principles that we followed in developing this protocol:

- The objective is to keep all the children in the school every day and do so safely.
- Vaccinations and masks have proven to be the most effective tools in minimizing respiratory disease spread in the building.
- Protecting the vulnerable is a high priority.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics are recommending that all children and adults in schools wear a mask inside the building. The Summit will start off the school year following these recommendations. Visitors to the school must arrive and wear masks as well. Should circumstances change as the year unfolds, we will adjust this policy accordingly. For us to be ready for such circumstances, it will be important that vaccination data for students be entered into Magnus.

Exceptions

- Exceptions to the mask policy may be made for children with severe allergies or respiratory challenges. Parents should contact the <u>school nurse</u> with documentation for an exception in these situations. These students will need to wear a face shield while in the building.
- Specific activities like lunch, playing an instrument, recess, other outdoor activities and actively playing a sport will not require a mask.
- Teachers teaching phonics, world language and students with hearing issues who lip read may
 wear a clear mask or face shield given the importance of students being able to view mouth
 formation in these situations.

Additional Information About Face Masks

You may use a homemade, purchased cloth or disposable face covering. A multi-ply tightly woven cotton cloth or multi-ply disposable face covering is recommended. Bandanas and gaiters are not acceptable. Information regarding face coverings, including how to make and use them, is provided by the CDC <u>here</u>.

Face Shields

- Are not a substitute for masks except as described above.
- Are not required except as described above. If students or teachers feel they are more
 protected wearing a face shield, they are welcome to do so.