



RINGGOLD SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Superintendent of Schools

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November 11, 2021

Dear Ringgold Families,

We are aware that there has been a lot of confusing information released in the last two days regarding mask orders and mandates in Pennsylvania schools. This communication is meant to clarify for you how this information affects the Ringgold School District and your students.

1. On November 10, 2021, the Commonwealth Court declared the standing masking order - which has required our students to wear masks at school - "unenforceable."
2. Within hours the Governor filed a Notice of Appeal with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.
3. On November 11, 2021, the Secretary of Education released a statement outlining that schools should continue to observe the school masking order throughout the duration of the Court's proceedings.
4. The Pennsylvania Department of Education Supported the Secretary of Education's statement by saying that the Governor's appeal triggers a Stay of the Commonwealth Court's ruling that will keep the Masking Order in effect.

So that is where we will be when students return to school this Friday, November 12, 2021. **By law, the Masking Order is still considered to be in effect** while the Pennsylvania Supreme Court considers the Governor's appeal. Therefore, pending additional information, the Ringgold School District's current [Health and Safety Plan](#) will remain in effect – including the temporary masking requirement for all students, staff, and visitors while inside schools and on school buses. To date, this approach has allowed us to keep students in schools 5 days a week.

Thank you for your continued compliance and consideration for the safety and wellbeing of your fellow Ringgold students and families.

Stay Safe,

Randall Skrinjorich

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Superintendent

~ Preparing students today for the challenges of tomorrow ~