## New Masking Requirements - please read

## Bonnie Branch Middle School <dnr@hcpss.org>

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To: Claire Striebich <Claire\_Striebich@hcpss.org>

## **New Masking Requirements** February 28, 2022 Dear BBMS Families, By now you've most likely seen all of the system-wide emails about masking requirements in Howard County Schools. Beginning tomorrow, students and staff have the option to wear a mask in school and on HCPSS school buses. We announced for students on Friday and today the importance of respecting everyone's decision about whether they want to continue to wear a mask or not. We made it very clear for students that everyone has the right to choose and we can never fully know all of the reasons why anyone decides to wear a mask or not. But, what we can ensure is that all staff and students be respectful of each individual's decision. We hope you can reinforce this message at home. Please explain that there will be staff and students who decide to continue to wear a mask and that is ok. Explain that for many reasons, people will make that choice. But, regardless of their decision, we should all respect that and not try to influence them in any way. Thank you for taking some time to talk about this and for helping us create the most welcoming, respectful environment possible at BBMS. Sincerely, Dr. Cockley, Principal Bonnie Branch Middle School | 4979 Ilchester Road Ellicott City, MD 21043 | (410) 313-2580 | bbms.hcpss.org

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