Parent Letter – Update on state's indoor mask mandate

Dear Parents/Guardians,

You may have heard that the state announced plans to lift the mask mandate for indoor public places for vaccinated individuals on Feb. 15 and may be wondering what that means for our school.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) guidance that takes effect Feb. 16 **does not apply to K-12 schools**. The indoor mask mandate, which has been a cornerstone of the state's COVID-19 strategy since the start of the school year, remains in effect for all K-12 students and staff.

CDPH guidance also states that masks will continue to be required for unvaccinated individuals in indoor public settings and businesses such as retail, restaurants, theaters, family entertainment centers, meetings, and state and local government offices serving the public. It's recommended that fully vaccinated individuals continue indoor masking when the risk may be high. CDPH continues to recommend surgical masks or higher-level respirators (e.g., N95s, KN95s, KF94s) with a good fit for adults and students.

The latest COVID-19 numbers show a decline in cases and hospitalizations across the state, which is good news. While we are hopeful things will continue to get better, it's important that we continue our current mitigation strategies to ensure our students and staff members remain as safe as possible. Thank you all for your continued support.

Sincerely, The Pivot Charter COVID team