



**The Berlin-Boylston Regional School District**  
**Jeffrey T. Zanghi, Superintendent of Schools**

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Good Afternoon,

As many of you are well aware, the MA Governor, MA DESE and Dept. of Public Health, have all concurred that they are strongly recommending the use of masks in our public schools as they re-open for the 2021-2022 school year. This information was presented in meetings and press conferences on Friday.

The term “strongly recommended” refers to the wearing of masks for students in grades K-6, as well as any students in grades 7-12, teaching staff, and administrators who are not vaccinated. On Saturday, a full set of guidelines was distributed to all public schools in the Commonwealth.

Our intention is to carefully review these guidelines and seek input from stakeholders in our community in the coming week, including school committee, union representatives, parent organizations, and local health agencies. We appreciate your individual emails, however, please know that our decision will be based upon the voices of these stakeholders in representing our school community using evidence as support.

We ask for your patience in order to facilitate these conversations and to do so in a timely manner. Please know that as always, the safety and well-being of our students and staff is of paramount importance to us. Therefore, while you may not agree with our final decision, we hope that you will demonstrate respect for it. With COVID-19 conditions and its variants pervading across the world, we continue to navigate through these difficult times using the best information available.

Therefore, we will be sending a subsequent email through school messenger within the next two weeks so that you may have time to prepare with your children and staff may have time to prepare their classrooms.

Thank you,  
Jeff Zanghi