



## West Linn-Wilsonville School District 3Jt

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

22210 SW Stafford Rd – Tualatin, Oregon 97062

March 14, 2022

Dear Governor Brown,

The West Linn Wilsonville School Board of Directors thanks you for lifting the mask mandate. We are pleased to see decision making and metrics for any future mask wearing and COVID-19 response delegated to county public health departments.

Last year, the West Linn Wilsonville School Board unanimously supported an operational framework that provided our students full time, in person instruction. Our decision was strongly supported by district staff, administrators, union leadership, community feedback, and Clackamas County Public Health. During the pandemic, our district's relationship with Clackamas County Public Health has become stronger than ever, as we know that local decision making on most COVID-19 health and safety protocols is most effective for our students and families.

COVID-19's Delta and Omicron variants affected our communities and we are proud that the West Linn Wilsonville School District remained open thanks to a committed effort by our teachers and staff. We advocate for a safe and inclusive learning environment and offer support for health and safety protocols for our schools, so we can serve our students. In our district, the availability and use of rapid antigen COVID-19 tests, increase in COVID-19 vaccinations for ages five and up, and improved therapies and early intervention treatments have all served to lower the individual risk of COVID-19. West Linn has an 80 percent vaccination rate and Wilsonville has a 78 percent vaccination rate.

We believe providing metrics and ensuring county-level public health decision-making is the most transparent way for our communities to address and understand the COVID-19 landscape as we transition. These continued county-level metrics for COVID-19 will provide an equitable and safe learning environment and ensure the success of our students and teachers.

Again, thank you for lifting the mask mandate, and thank you for providing local county public health oversight to allow our students to thrive.

Respectfully,

West Linn Wilsonville School Board of Directors:

Chelsea King, Chair

Christy Thompson, Vice-Chair

Director Kelly Sloop

Director Louis Taylor

Director Kirsten Wyatt