



COQUILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT #8

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March 3, 2022

Good afternoon families and supporters of the Coquille School District,

Earlier this week the governors of the three west coast states Oregon, Washington, and California announced that the indoor mask mandates will expire at 11:59 pm on March 11, 2022. For some of us this news will be met with great excitement while others might be apprehensive. I understand the spectrum of emotions decisions like this cause people. **Starting on Monday March 14, the Coquille School District will no longer make wearing a mask a requirement, instead it will be an optional decision.**

It will be important that we make every individual in our district, regardless of their masking choice feel welcomed and comfortable. We are appreciative that Salem has heard the voices in rural Oregon and have returned at least the masking decision up to each local district to decide.

On a related note, Governor Brown has declared that the state's Covid emergency will end on April 1.

This is just another step towards returning education in Coquille to pre-pandemic levels. To be clear, this does not mean that all things will immediately return to normal; there is much work to be done as the school district updates it's Ready Schools, Safe Learners (RSSL) guidance. The school district administrative team will be engaged in that work this week and next as we learn about the changes coming from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE). We will continue to update families on the changes that are happening throughout the spring.

Respectfully,

Tim Sweeney
Superintendent
Coquille School District