

October 6, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Over the next several days we will be reminding students of our COVID Safety Procedures in preparation for our **return to the building on October 12, 2021**. This will be done as part of our morning announcements which are shown to students daily. These announcements are also posted on our Facebook and Instagram pages and can be viewed by you at any time.

Our first health tip focused on *mask mandates*, one of the most important safety protocols in schools. While thoughts and feelings about this mandate vary, there is no question that the Governor's mandate requires that all students wear masks; regardless of their vaccination status. We ask that you reinforce with your children that they wear their mask in the building unless given a mask break by the teacher, including hallways and bathrooms.

Students should come to school prepared with a mask. While we make masks available for students, we cannot guarantee that masks will always be on-hand. We know from recent events that production issues, delivery delays, and shortages are possible. In the event of a student not having a mask and a lack of mask availability at the school, we will need to request a pick-up for the student.

On our end, we will continue to remind students to wear their masks. We are asking our teachers to monitor mask wearing, targeting this behavior as we return to the building and enter what is the typical cold and flu season. Students that are continuously reminded in class about their mask will receive a referral to our culture team. A conversation will be had with your child and a phone call will be made to inform you of the issue. Consistent referrals may result in your child being required to engage in learning from home for periods of time.

The safety of your child and our school community is at the heart of our procedures. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at 203-870-8188 or through email at Bridgeport@greatoakscharter.org

Be well, be safe,

John Scalice, Executive Director
Great Oaks Charter School, Bridgeport