

Dear CDS D Community:

The Central Dauphin School District is aware of Wednesday's ruling by the Commonwealth Court which invalidated the order issued by the Secretary of Health requiring the wearing of face masks during school hours.

Shortly after its release, the Secretary of Education issued a statement indicating that the Commonwealth is appealing the Commonwealth Court's order.

Under Pennsylvania law, an appeal by the Commonwealth is an automatic supersedeas or stay of the appealed from order. That means that an appeal from the Commonwealth freezes the order of the Commonwealth Court and keeps the Secretary of Health's mask mandate in place.

The District is also aware that the Petitioners have indicated that they will be seeking to lift the automatic stay.

What does this mean for our families? The District will continue with the masking requirement contained in the Health and Safety Plan until there is clarity from the courts on which the District and its families can rely.

That means that students will be required to wear a mask as before when we resume in person instruction on Friday, November 12.

With the community's support, CDS D's implementation of its Health and Safety Plan has resulted in ***no*** days during which the entire District has gone remote due to COVID and the number of individualized interruptions of in person learning have fallen to the lowest levels possible.

The diligence and hard work of the District's families, students, teachers and staff is directly responsible for our ability to remain in person for instruction.

For that, we remain grateful.