



# OLD MISSION PENINSULA SCHOOL

August 12, 2021

Dear OMPS Families,

Last school year was one for the books, and OMPS families did an amazing job rallying together to keep all of our students healthy and physically engaged in an in-person learning environment. Unfortunately, COVID has not erased itself from our lives and we all enter another school year looking at protocols to continue keeping students and staff safe and healthy. We were one of the few schools in the area, let alone the nation, that was able to stay open because of the protocols we had in place and the support we received from the community in adhering to those guidelines.

On Tuesday, August 10, 2021, we participated in a meeting with our local health department. The meeting included local pediatricians, Munson healthcare staff, and Health department representatives, sharing status reports for our region and providing guidance to area superintendents. They unanimously agreed that in order to prevent further uptick in cases and keep everyone safe, universal masking should be followed in schools, especially amongst the population that our school serves (children that are not vaccinated and ineligible at this time).

**Based on the guidelines from our health department, CDC, and the recommendation of our local pediatricians, OMPS will require universal masking during indoor times with students.** You can find more information on those guidelines from the CDC [HERE](#), as well as a letter from our local pediatricians [HERE](#). Universal masking will be required for all staff and students while indoors. We know that mask wearing is NOT fun and there may be some strong feelings around this topic. Given the highly contagious nature of the new Delta variant of COVID, we would rather keep everyone healthy and in school instead of risking a school-wide exposure and possible shut down. We feel confident that with masks we feel comfortable with allowing more normal school interactions. We look forward to a great school experience for your children.

We would like to reassure you that weekly meetings with the health department will continue and if/when things change (let's hope for the better!), we will happily make adjustments to this policy. Please support OMPS during this crazy time and know that above everything, we have your children's health, safety and academic success at the forefront of these decisions we make and do not take any of them lightly.

Sincerely,  
Co Principals  
Danielle Clayton and Renee Kolle