

**Monday, March 14, 2020 Masks will not be required in the Biggs Unified School District. Please read over the below information and share it with all.**

During COVID, the perseverance of our families, students, and staff has been beyond admirable, and Biggs Unified understands that it has not been an easy time.

The latest update in guidance from the State changes masking indoors from required to strongly recommended. We know that many staff, students, and families are excited and welcome this news. We also understand that some staff and students may choose to continue wearing masks. We fully support all students, families, and staff and will have masks available for those that wish to continue wearing a face-covering. We ask that everyone be respectful of others' decisions.

Biggs Unified remains committed to fostering a culture of respect among all school community members. As we move forward, we are focused on helping all students feel safe and valued in a place of learning and growth.

- We are excited to be able to move forward together towards an endemic.
- We understand some people may feel more comfortable continuing to wear a mask. Masks will be provided upon request.
- With this change, parents and students should discuss their family's expectations for mask-wearing at school.
- We ask for parents to help us remind students to respect the choices of others, even when they differ from their own.
- To continue building and strengthening our school community, it is important to understand that our friends and colleagues may have different opinions and respect that they are making the best choice for themselves and their family.
- Thank you for your ongoing partnership and support as we transition into a new phase of living and learning with COVID-19.
- Please continue to monitor for symptoms and remain home when sick. Students and staff are encouraged to take a COVID-19 test if exhibiting symptoms and/or if they have a known exposure to COVID-19.
- Biggs Unified knows that this has not been an easy time for anyone. Thank you for your continued support of our schools and staff.
- Schools will have counseling staff available to assist students with this transition. Change can be scary, and we are here to support our students and staff in a safe and respectful environment.
- Our goal is to continue to offer a safe and inclusive learning environment for all children.
- We look forward to moving forward together with our families and community.

**Resources to help ease children's fears**

- [Coping with Anxiety as Mask Mandates Lift](#) (Michigan Health)
- [How to Deal With Bullying Over Face Masks in School](#) (Boston Children's Hospital)
- [Reassuring Children](#) (Philadelphia Inquirer Opinion)