

## **Parent Update - Masks in Schools January 25, 2022**

Dear Dobbs Ferry Parents and Community,

I apologize for the confusion caused by last night's announcement that the state mask mandate has been struck down by the Nassau County Supreme Court. I recognize that this ruling/information, and the legal back and forth, has been extraordinarily confusing and stressful for our families and our educational community. Our entire state is contending with these conflicting orders presently.

The Dobbs Ferry School District adheres to all New York State laws and regulations pertaining to public schools. The State Department of Health, through the Attorney General, has filed a notice of appeal to the court's order. Additionally, the New York State Education Department and our School District Counsel have indicated that the moment the motion was filed, an automatic stay on the lower court's ruling was put into force and effect until the appellate court hears the State's appeal.

What does this mean for us? While we recognize that some parents and community members have different thoughts and feelings regarding masking in school, the State's appeal effectively maintains the State's masking policy, for the moment. Accordingly, masking within the Dobbs Ferry school facilities and on school transportation remains in force and effect. Please be advised that all members of the Dobbs Ferry School community must continue to follow the State's requirements until this legal matter is resolved.

Thank you in advance for your patience.

Sincerely,

*Lisa Brady*, Ed.D.  
Superintendent