



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

To: **All Employees**

Date: September 2, 2021

From: **George Arlotto, Ed.D.** *GA*  
**Superintendent of Schools**

Instructions:

Subject: **Update to masking protocols;  
additional COVID-19 testing  
information**

Copies to:

Colleagues,

Last week, the Maryland State Board of Education adopted emergency regulations applicable to public schools in Maryland that require any person inside a school facility to wear a face covering, subject to certain exemptions. [The regulations as adopted can be found here.](#)

The regulations must still be approved by a General Assembly panel, but they largely reinforce the protocols I set forth in my letter of August 4, 2021. There are several key differences, however, and, in accordance with the regulations, I have amended Anne Arundel County Public Schools' protocols, effective immediately, as follows:

- Masks must be worn, with limited exceptions stipulated in the regulation, by anyone inside an AACPS building.
- Masks must be a solid piece of material without slits, exhalation valves, or punctures. They must cover the nose and mouth, be secured to the head, and fit snugly against the side of the face.
- Gaiters are not acceptable as face coverings.

### **COVID-19 TESTING**

Home COVID-19 tests are becoming more prevalent, and we have encountered instances in which results of those tests have been produced by employees. We have discussed these tests with our partners at the Anne Arundel County Department of Health.

Please be aware that AACPS will accept results from a home PCR test but cannot accept results from a home rapid test. The latter is not read by a medical professional and positive results are not entered into the State or County Department of Health database.

AACPS will continue to accept results from both rapid and PCR tests performed at health-care facilities.

GA/bm