As of Wednesday, March 2, 2022, face-masks are no longer required to be worn in schools in New York.

It's normal to feel anxious about change. If you have questions, ask your teacher or another trusted adult.

Guidance changed because cases are going down. This decision was based on good and reliable science.

I choose to still wear a mask! ❤️

Thanks for telling me! 😊

Regardless of whether masking is required you may still choose to wear a mask.

Be respectful and kind to your friends, family, and teachers whether they choose to wear a face-mask or not.
AS OF WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022, FACE-MASKS ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED TO BE WORN IN SCHOOLS IN NEW YORK STATE.

CHANGE CAN BE HARD AND STRESSFUL, ESPECIALLY FOR KIDS. BELOW ARE SOME ANSWERS TO COMMON QUESTIONS STUDENTS MAY ASK.

WHY DID THE GUIDANCE CHANGE?

WHEN SHOULD I WEAR A MASK?
- THE CDC NOW RECOMMENDS PEOPLE WEAR FACE-MASKS WHEN IN AN AREA WITH A HIGH COMMUNITY COVID-19 LEVEL.
- IN AREAS WITH A MEDIUM COMMUNITY COVID-19 LEVEL, THOSE WHO ARE IMMUNOCOMPROMISED OR AT RISK FOR SEVERE DISEASE SHOULD TALK TO THEIR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER ABOUT MASKING.
- IN AREAS WITH A LOW COVID-19 COMMUNITY LEVEL, PEOPLE MAY WEAR A MASK BASED ON THEIR PERSONAL PREFERENCE.

HOW DO I KNOW WHAT MY COUNTY’S COMMUNITY COVID-19 LEVEL IS?
The CDC COVID-19 COMMUNITY LEVELS WEBPAGE HAS DATA AVAILABLE FOR ALL NYS COUNTIES.

CAN I STILL WEAR A MASK?
YES! EVERYONE MAY CHOOSE TO STILL WEAR A MASK. PEOPLE MAY CHOOSE TO CONTINUE TO WEAR A MASK DUE TO BEING IMMUNOCOMPROMISED AND AT HIGHER RISK OF SEVERE COVID-19, BEING UNABLE TO BE VACCINATED, OR CARING FOR SOMEONE ELSE WHO IS HIGH RISK.

THE MOST IMPORTANT TO BE RESPECTFUL OF EVERYONE’S PERSONAL CHOICE TO WEAR A FACE-MASK OR NOT.