



Betty Huff Elementary School

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October 1, 2021

Dear Betty Huff Families,

Firstly, a reminder to everyone to check find the Betty Huff App for their phone. It is available on both Apple and Google Play devices. The two respective app stores have a free app for download and all of our key information is shared through there. We do not send out print newsletters and the app is far faster than our school website. To remain the most up-to-date, please find the app, download and connect on there.

Secondly, we have an information bulletin today: **As per Fraser Health guidelines, BEGINNING OCTOBER 4th, 2021 – all students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 will now be required to wear face coverings while indoors.** The same exemptions to this order will remain in place:

- ✚ A person who cannot tolerate wearing a mask for health or behavioural reasons
- ✚ A person who is unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person

If this applies to your child, please let your child's teacher know.

So, what took so long to make this decision? Like all school boards, Surrey follows the direction of Fraser Health, specifically the **Provincial Order on Face Covering**. This order previously mandated the wearing of masks for students in Grades 4-12, but left this as an optional measure for students in Kindergarten to Grade 3. This order changed on September 29th, which is why this change is being communicated to you today. The order now says that, *"nothing in this order prevents...a school...from having additional requirements in relation to face coverings."*

Again, as a general reminder, research continues to indicate that being vaccinated continues to be the most effective measure against COVID-19. Vaccinations are currently available to all students aged 12 and older. Stay tuned to updates on vaccinations for younger students.

We are in this together! Work hard, be kind, and be your best you!

With care,
Mr. B. Helland, Principal