

January 20, 2022

Dear St. Ambrose Families,

Please find attached a letter from our Superintendent stating that masks will become optional for all families in our Diocesan schools as a result of Governor Glen Youngkin Executive Order #2.

Due to this change, St Ambrose school will need some time to prepare and transition our faculty, staff, and students. **Therefore, masks will be required for all students, faculty, and staff until February 7th, 2022.** This time will allow us to consult with parents, faculty, and Parish officials on new protocols and procedures our school will have to implement to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our community.

We are very proud of the work we have done with the mitigation strategies we have had thus far to protect our students, faculty, and staff. As a result of these strategies, our school was able to sustain in-person learning without any spread in our school since August 26, 2020. We will continue to work hard to ensure the wellbeing of our community, but now the challenge is more significant than ever, and at this point, we do not know how sustainable in-person instruction will be for the rest of the school year.

I ask for the benefit of the children in our care, that we act with kindness, love, and respect to the different opinions of those in our community. I would ask that you take a moment to discuss with your children that no remarks or comments should be made to those who arrive on February 7th at our school with masks or without masks. Let this be an opportunity to unite our community and not create division among us. St. Ambrose community has always been a community that cares deeply for one another, and I know in my heart we will continue to do so.

Lastly, I will kindly request that all parents complete the attached form indicating your masking preference for your child no later than **February 1, 2022**, as this is intended for contact tracing only.

We pray that the outcome of this decision continues to bring blessings to our school community

Yours in Christ,
Maria Teresa Tejada
Principal

Rev. Andrew Fisher
Pastor