February 25, 2022

Dear Lisbon Central School Staff, Parents and Friends,

At a Special Meeting of the Lisbon Board of Education last evening, the Board voted to follow the Governor's lift to remove the mask mandate and to modify Policy #4118.237/4218.237 to make mask wearing optional, effective February 28,2022 and to support any staff, student, and any family member who opts to continue wearing masks. The decision to wear a face mask is now a choice, not a requirement. This is an individual choice which will be respected by the entire school community. However, please note that the wearing of face masks is still a requirement on buses. It is a federal requirement that masks are still to be worn on all forms of public transportation until further notice. Therefore, any student on a school bus will still be required to wear a mask.

I would like to share the following information as February 28<sup>th</sup> approaches:

Please communicate with your child that that while masks are optional at school, they are required on buses.

Teachers, Administrators and all LCS staff will not be responsible for monitoring and enforcing mask-wearing for those students who opt to wear a mask.

Lisbon Central School will not tolerate any harassment of any student or staff member for his/her choice regarding mask wearing.

With this change, it is especially important that individuals remain home when sick or when in close contact outside of school with someone who tests positive for COVID 19. All student positive COVID 19 cases must be reported to the school nurse.

The CT Department of Health (DPH) and the CT State Department of Education (CSDE) are expected to provide additional guidance on relevant protocols. We will keep all informed.

I hope that you find this information useful. I thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely yours,

Sally Keating