

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REMOVAL OF MASK MANDATE AND OTHER  
MITIGATION MEASURES**

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2020, Illinois Governor JB Pritzker declared all counties in Illinois as disaster areas and implemented the State’s Emergency Operations Plan in response to the novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”); and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the U.S. President declared a national state of emergency and Governor Pritzker ordered the closure of all public and private K-12 schools in Illinois in an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 5, 2020, Governor JB Pritzker announced the Restore Illinois plan which addresses the public health approach to safely reopen the State; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 11, 2021, Governor Pritzker announced the State entered Phase 5 of the Restore Illinois Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 9, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control issued updated “Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools” and on July 9, 2021, the Illinois Department of Public Health adopted that Guidance;

**WHEREAS**, on July 10, 2021, the Illinois State Board of Education (“ISBE”) issued guidance allowing school districts to decide whether to remove any of the prevention strategies for their schools based on local conditions, doing so one at a time, while monitoring closely for any increases in COVID-19 cases;

**WHEREAS**, the Will County Health Department (WCHD) is currently strongly recommending universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools and daycare facilities, regardless of the vaccination status;

**WHEREAS**, since July 19, 2021, the rolling seven-day average for the COVID-19 test positivity rate for the School District's two zip codes has been trending upwards; and

**WHEREAS**, since July 3, 2021, the COVID-19 new case rate per 100,000 residents in the School District's two zip codes has been trending upwards and surpassed the threshold of 50 on July 28, 2021 which is considered "moderate".

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

1. The recitals above are adopted and incorporated herein;
2. Effective with the start of the 2021-22 school year, the Superintendent is hereby directed to implement universal masking as a COVID-19 mitigation measure for all individuals, regardless of vaccination status, as is strongly recommended based on the community metrics by the CDC, IDPH, and Will County Health Department;
3. The Superintendent is authorized to implement Shield Saliva Testing for students and staff on an optional/voluntary (opt-out) basis;
4. The Superintendent is authorized to gradually remove any COVID-19 mitigation measures previously in place, while continuing to monitor COVID-19 transmission rates in the schools and/or community;
5. The Superintendent is authorized to reinstate any COVID-19 mitigation measure that has been removed, including mandatory masks, in the event the Superintendent determines it necessary to protect the health and well-being of students and staff due to rising COVID-19 transmission rates in the schools and/or or greater community or to otherwise protect the best interests of the School District; and,

6. The Superintendent is directed to reinstate any COVID-19 mitigation measure that has been removed, including mandatory masks, in the event the State of Illinois hereinafter mandates such mitigation measures in schools.

Member Sweis moved adoption of the resolution and Member Dopke seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYES: Middleton, Dopke, Sweis, Ferkaluk, Nusterhoff

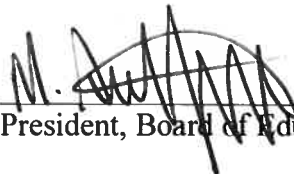
NAYS: none

ABSENT: Gorecki, Washington

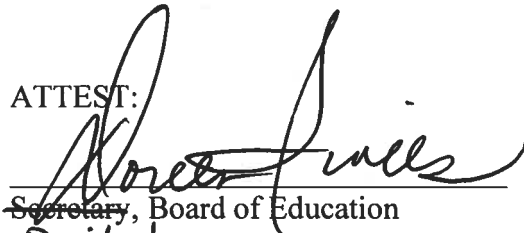
Approved this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2021

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF  
WILL COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 92  
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Board of Education

ATTEST:


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Board of Education  
Vice President,

STATE OF ILLINOIS     )  
  )  
COUNTY OF WILL        )

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified Secretary of the Board of Education of Will County School District 92, Will County, Illinois.

I do further certify that the foregoing relates to the August 3, 2021 Board meeting proceedings and the adoption of the RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING UNIVERSAL USE OF MASKS, OPTIONAL COVID-19 TESTING, AND OTHER MITIGATION MEASURES. A true, correct and complete copy of said Resolution, as adopted at said meeting is attached hereto.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto affixed my official signature at Will County, Illinois, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2021.

  
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~~Secretary~~, Board of Education  
Vice President,