



ST. AGNES
ACADEMY
for GIRLS

ST. DOMINIC
SCHOOL
for BOYS

The Dominican

COMMUNITY *of* SCHOOLS

November 12, 2021

Dear Dominican Community of Schools Families,

After thoroughly reviewing the current COVID data as well as considering recommendations by healthcare professionals, we have made the decision to adopt a **mask-optional policy on campus beginning Monday, November 15.**

Current data for Shelby County reflects a steady decline in COVID cases in our community. On our own campus we have seen a marked decline in cases. We have reported one student case and one staff case in the last 54 days. No case was transmitted on campus this year.

We recognize that some students and faculty will continue to wear masks for a variety of reasons. **The school will honor parent requests for students to remain masked.** If your child is in **PK2-6th grade**, you will receive an email with a link to a Google form where you can indicate your preference for your child to continue masking. Students in **grades 7-12** will self monitor their own mask wear. I encourage parents to discuss mask wear with their Junior High and Upper School students.

It is important to remember, while we will be mask optional, we will continue to follow other safety protocols, physical distancing and contact tracing throughout campus. And, we expect all community members to stay home when sick, get tested when recommended, and comply with quarantine and isolation protocols.

Throughout the pandemic we have closely followed the data and guidance of health officials and consulted our health team. Behind every decision has been the goal of keeping our community safe and keeping students in school. We recognize that there are differing opinions on this issue, and we ask that everyone be respectful and supportive of each other's views.

We will continue to monitor our school and community data, and we will adjust our mitigation strategies as warranted. Let's continue to work together to create the learning, spiritual, and social environment our children deserve. As always, I thank you for your prayers and support.

Peace,

Tom Hood

President, St. Agnes Academy-St. Dominic School

"Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, just as in fact you are doing."

1Thessalonians 5:11
