



**West Orange Public Schools**  
**179 Eagle Rock Avenue**  
**West Orange, New Jersey 07052**  
(973) 669-5400 ext. 20512 Fax (973) 669-1432

**Interim Superintendent of Schools**

**C. Lauren Schoen, Ed. D.**

May 13, 2022

Dear West Orange Public School Community,

On March 7, 2022, our district made a decision to give students and staff the option of wearing masks. At Board meetings following that decision, I have communicated that we would monitor the positive COVID-19 cases within our district as well as within our community and the north east region of New Jersey.

The current COVID-19 Activity Level (CALI) index for the Northeast region (which includes West Orange) has moved to the **HIGH** range. This means that there is an increased number of positive COVID-19 cases reported in our area.

Guidance from the New Jersey Departments of Health and Education as well as our local health officials, **strongly encourages** all students and staff, as well as visitors, to wear masks while indoors.

Therefore, **effective Monday, May 16th**, the West Orange School District strongly encourages all staff and students to wear masks while indoors.

We will continue to monitor positive cases of COVID-19 within our district, maintain communication with our local health officials as well as monitor the weekly CALI index for the Northeast region. If additional preventative measures must be considered, we will communicate this information with our staff and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Lauren Schoen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "C" at the beginning.

Dr. C. Lauren Schoen