



Rosedale Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

25 Erindale Avenue
Hamilton, Ontario L8K 4R2
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PRINCIPAL: Susan Neville
www.hwdsb.on.ca/rosedale

September 2, 2021

RE: Mandatory Mask Use in Kindergarten

Dear Rosedale Kindergarten Parents,

I am very excited to be having all of our students back learning in school again and I look forward to seeing everyone next week. I know there is a lot of anxiety and unknowns as we are still in the midst of a pandemic and thus have to follow very strict Health and Safety protocols. All procedures set out for the school have been vetted and mandated by Hamilton Public Health and are intended to keep all members of the school community – students, staff, and families – healthy and to **keep schools open**. With Covid cases again rising into the 800+ area we need to do all we can to follow these regulations as we do not want to see schools shut again this year, and we do not want to see anyone getting seriously ill. As stated in the HWDSB parent communication and Covid 19 update sent out yesterday, the HWDSB mask protocol states: *“Masks are mandated for all students, including Kindergarten students. Reasonable exceptions on the requirement to wear masks will apply.”* Reasonable exceptions are medical or sensory (in the case of special education students) and in these cases, we encourage the use of face shields. Please know that I have a wonderful Kinder Team here at Rosedale and we work with all students to get used to mask use while indoors and treat each child as an individual – some will take to it right away, some will take longer, some will need many mask breaks, etc. We will make accommodations as needed with the foundation being that all children feel safe and supported while we remain as Public Health conscious as possible.

We had **100%** compliance with mask usage last year during in school learning, and that went a long way to contributing to Rosedale having very few Covid cases, and then only towards the end of the in-school period. If your child does fall into the exemption category as explained above, please complete the exemption form in the portal.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at the school at 905-549-4233. Please keep updated on Covid 19 policies and protocols and parent communications via the HWDSB website. Rosedale specific information will come from the school staff and will also be posted on the Rosedale website. The Rosedale Site Specific Plan outlining all policies and procedures for the school year will be posted on the Rosedale website tomorrow by end of day.

Thank you for your support and co-operation in keeping all Rosedale students and staff as safe and healthy as possible.

Ms. S. Neville
Principal



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curiosity.

creativity.

possibility.

HWDSB