



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

March 8, 2022

TO: Complex Area Superintendents
Principals (All)

FROM: Keith T. Hayashi 
Interim Superintendent

SUBJECT: **Updated Guidance for Masking Outdoors**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) continues to update its policies and protocols in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as new information becomes available. The following updated guidance takes into consideration the recommendations of the Hawaii State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [COVID-19 Community Levels](#) which indicate all Counties in the State are now in the "low" category.

- Effective Wednesday, March 9, 2022, masking is optional in outdoor settings at the Department's schools and facilities.
- Individuals should make their own decision to mask or not when outdoors based on whether they are at high risk for severe disease and other unique needs.

Mitigation strategies at school will continue to be adjusted based on the latest data. Thank you for all that you do to support the health and safety of our school communities.

KTH:jr
c: Deputy Superintendent
Assistant Superintendents
Office of Student Support Services