To All Faculty, Staff, Students, and Visitors:

On February 28, 2022, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) modified its Guidance for the Use of Face Masks (CDPH Guidance for the Use of Face Masks). Simultaneously, the Governor suspended the CalOSHA requirement that unvaccinated workers wear face coverings when indoors (Governor's Order). These two actions effectively eliminated the masking requirements for all users of Palo Verde Community College District property and facilities regardless of vaccine status.

Accordingly, beginning Saturday, March 12, 2022, universal masking requirements will be eliminated for all students, visitors, and employees of Palo Verde Community College District in accordance with the aforementioned actions.

Please note the following <u>recommendations</u>:

- CDPH strongly <u>recommends</u> that all persons, regardless of vaccine status, continue indoor masking.
- Riverside County Public Health <u>encourages</u> districts to be mindful of and provide support for higher risk areas, such as:
 - individuals with medically fragile conditions, including those that are transported via public transportation;
 - individuals who are symptomatic and might need assessment and/or isolation;
 - o individuals who live in multi-generational households;
 - o individuals who have had family COVID related deaths;
 - individuals who experience intimidation or coercion with regard to face coverings.

Nothing in this directive prohibits individuals from wearing masks or taking other recommended actions they feel are appropriate for their personal protection, and no person shall be prevented from wearing a mask as a condition of participation in an activity or entry on campus.

If you have any questions or concerns, or need specific accommodations due to your medical diagnosis related to COVID, please contact Human Resources at 760-921-5539.

As always, thank you very much for your continued support.

Regards,

Donald G. Wallace, Ph.D.

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