STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
Transportation Directors

FROM: Molly M. Spearman
State Superintendent of Education

DATE: February 25, 2022

RE: Masks on School Buses Update

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced on February 25, 2022 that "it is exercising its enforcement discretion to not require that people wear masks on buses or vans operated by public or private school systems, including early care and education/child care programs. CDC is making this change to align with updated guidance that no longer recommends universal indoor mask wearing in K-12 schools and early education settings in areas with a low or medium COVID-19 Community Level."

Therefore, effective immediately, the South Carolina Department of Education will no longer require the use of masks by students and staff on state owned and operated school buses. As is the case with school facilities, school districts have discretion to require masks on school buses in line with CDC and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control guidance.