

Department's view on following CDC guidance, especially with younger students who are not yet eligible for vaccination. If we have learned anything from the past 18 months about Covid it is that it is unpredictable. None of us know what the next weeks will bring which is why the County feels that starting the school year with more stringent mitigation measures is better.

The Bucks County Health Department is committed to working closely with all our schools to limit the impact of the pandemic as much as possible. Regardless of what path the districts follow on masking, the Health Department will continue to be a resource and partner. For those who begin with a mask optional plan it is important to note that the Bucks County Health Department will be carefully scrutinizing cases in your districts and may strongly recommend a more strict masking policy if the situation warrants it.

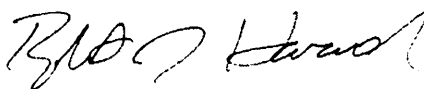
We want to express our thanks for your service and our commitment to continue as partners as we navigate this next stage of the pandemic. All of us want the end of Covid-19 to come sooner rather than later. All of us appreciate the importance of keeping our children safe and the undeniable value of in-person learning. It is our sincere hope, as we are sure it is yours as well, that this school year will end on a more healthy and happy note.

Sincerely,

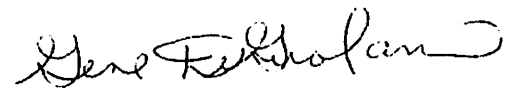
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cc: Bucks County School Superintendents