## WHITEHALL CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO Box 29, 87 Buckley Road, Whitehall, New York 12887-3633 Whitehall – Birthplace of the U. S. Navy – www.railroaders.net

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January 25, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians:

On Monday (January 25, 2022) afternoon, a State Supreme Court judge in Nassau County ruled against the NYS mask requirement. Since that time, we have received the following from the NYS Education Department:

"The State Education Department understands that Nassau County Supreme Court has ruled that the Department of Health exceeded its authority in enacting the mask regulation, 10 NYCRR 2.60, in *Demetriou et al. v. New York State Dep't of Health et al.* This regulation is the subject of conflicting decisions, insofar as Albany County Supreme Court recently upheld the regulation in *Massapequa UFSD et al. v. Hochul, et al.* 

It is SED's understanding that the Department of Health will appeal the Nassau County Supreme Court decision, which will result in an automatic stay that will unambiguously restore the mask rule until such time as an appellate court issues a further ruling. Therefore, **schools must continue to follow the mask rule.**"

We will continue to update you as we receive additional information on this.

Patrick Dee Superintendent of Schools