

Board of Trustees mandates masks for all K-12 students while at school



During a special meeting on Tuesday, August 18, the STAR Catholic Board of Trustees voted to make wearing masks mandatory for all K to 12 students at school. This applies to both the classroom and common areas.

What was the reasoning behind this decision?

The Board of Trustees believes this mandate aligns with the recommendation from the Chief Medical Officer of Health that when a physical distance of 2 metres is not possible, masks should be worn.

Due to the large number of students in many of our classes, and because physical distancing in these cases is often not possible, the Board felt mandating mask use for all students regardless of age, including in the classroom, was necessary to allow schools to follow public health guidance and keep everyone in the building safe.

What else should families know?

Everyone in a STAR Catholic school must wear a mask. This includes students from Kindergarten through 12, staff and administration, and parent visitors entering areas other than the front office.

Although the province is providing 2 reusable masks to each student, parents are encouraged to purchase additional masks in order to ensure they have a sufficient supply for the school week.

Administration is currently working to finalize details of the mask mandate, including ways schools can provide students with mask wearing breaks throughout the day (when physical distancing is possible), and how to accommodate those who have conditions preventing them from wearing a mask. More information will be communicated with parents and staff when it's finalized.