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Dear Shalom School families,

As we enter into the next phase of adapting to the latest developments with COVID-19, it feels incredible to be writing you with some news about relaxing certain COVID practices and protocols. We have had two years of pivoting and adapting, and based on the rapidly falling community prevalence, we are now able to safely lift some of our COVID-19 restrictions. We would like to share the following changes with you:

- **We will no longer be requiring testing for return to school from the weekend; we look forward to seeing everyone on Monday without checking for proof of a negative COVID test.** Please keep in mind, however, that beginning Thursday, March 31st, all unvaccinated K-6 students will be required to show proof of weekly negative COVID tests for the remainder of the school year. Then, for the 22-23 school year, K-6 students will be required to be fully vaccinated.
- **Starting on Tuesday, March 1st, masks will be optional during extended periods of time outside for both students and faculty and staff** (i.e. PE/movement, recess, lunch recess, outside play time, before care, after care, etc.). We encourage a community of acceptance and inclusivity and we will be working hard to ensure that everyone's individual choice is respected. We will make it clear to students that we will not point out or discuss any individual choices in regards to masks. If you would like your child to remain masked all the time, please connect with your child(ren)'s individual teacher(s) so that they can help facilitate that. We are aware that the process of adjusting to this new practice will be iterative and we encourage everyone to do what they are comfortable with while also being aware that their preferences may change over time (in either direction). Please continue to have your child masked at drop-off so that they can quickly acclimate into their classroom environment indoors, which will still require them to be masked.

On Monday, February 28th, we expect to receive a new update from Sacramento County Public Health regarding masking indoors for K-6 schools. The health committee will review those recommendations and will then establish and communicate a plan that fits best with our school community and priorities. Stay tuned for updates in regards to that development toward the end of next week.

I cannot say it enough that you as parents have been incredible partners to us. Even in times of challenge, we have stayed strong as a community. I hope to only see things move in a positive direction from here going forward, and I wish our community true health and happiness in the months to come.

Thank you,

Jilian

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Shalom School's mission is to provide each child with an outstanding education in a nurturing environment that is academically excellent, inclusive, innovative, and inspired by Jewish values and traditions.



[www.shalomschool.org](http://www.shalomschool.org)



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Shalom School | 2320 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95825

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