Office of the Superintendent Phone 479- 885-3907 FAX 479-885-2380

Lamar School District No.39 JAY HOLLAND, Superintendent 301 Elberta Street

Lamar, Arkansas 72846

3-17-2021

Dear parents,

As you may already be aware, The Governor will make an announcement about the possibility of removing the Mask Mandate for the State of Arkansas in his much anticipated Press Conference on March 31, 2021. At this point, we do not know what guidance he may/may not give to schools for us to follow.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is looking into the possibility of reducing the distance for quarantining Close Contacts from 6' to 3' if masks are worn. This information, if it is available to the Governor prior to his Press Conference, may play a role in his possible decision for schools. Again, we aren't sure on that either.

The Emergency Procedures on wearing Masks and Face Coverings Policy for our school district was put in place and adopted by our Board of Education on August 17, 2020. It states that both Students and Employees are required to wear masks or face coverings and when/where they are required to wear them. You can find this information on our website under the Ready for Learning Tab and Emergency Procedures 20-21.

This Policy was re-visited in our last Board of Education meeting about the timing of the Governor's conference, how it might affect our schools, and what we feel is in the best interest in protecting our students and faculty.

With all of this being said, we will continue to follow this policy by wearing masks, or face coverings, in accordance with the Emergency Procedure that was put in place. By following this Policy, we feel it will give us the best opportunity to make a sound decision come our next Board of Education meeting on April 12, 2021.

Sincerely,

Jay Holland Superintendent