



## *Memo from President Mingo*

March 9, 2022

**Subject: Updated Face Covering Protocols**

Dear campus community,

I write to you this morning with some news we have all be awaiting. The current masking protocols will change effective immediately. Decisions regarding masking protocols will now be a College decision versus at statewide system decision based on CDC, County and Campus datasets. The following are our WCCC COVID cases for the past six weeks:  
WCCC COVID Positive Cases for the Week of:

1/24-1/28 – 6  
1/31-2/4 – 0  
2/7-2/11 – 0  
2/14-2/18 – 1  
2/21-2/25 – 1  
2/28-3/4 – 0  
This week – 0 so far

As you can see, we've had a consistent decline since January in the number of positive cases. In addition, the Maine CDC has lowered the risk of community transmission from high to medium for all 16 counties in Maine [COVID-19 by County | CDC](#). WCCC also has a high vaccination and booster rate for all our employees and students.

Due to all these factors combined, effective immediately, WCCC will currently suspend our requirement for faculty, staff and students to wear masks while inside our buildings on campus. Due to the current circumstances within our community and on our campus, presently individuals can make personal decisions regarding their desire or need to wear and/or remove their masks. This decision will be monitored continually and the state of the virus at any given time will strongly impact the decision regarding whether or not masking may become necessary in the future. We have always followed the science with

the top priority being the health and wellbeing of our campus community and that will remain the case moving forward.

I encourage you all to continue to support a culture of respect for one another and to remember that individuals on campus will be in varying places on this matter. I'm confident that you will show the respect for everyone that you've shown to this point and that you will fully understand that some, due to their personal or family health circumstances, may still continue to wear their mask for the additional health benefits doing so will provide.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan L. Mingo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Susan L. Mingo

President