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## COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

February 11, 2022

Sohil R Sud, MD, MA  
Lead, Safe Schools for All  
California Department of Public Health

Dear Dr. Sud,

First of all, thank you for all your hard work and leadership in supporting the California Department of Public Health in the effort to ensure a safe school environment for all.

In planning for the next phase of this pandemic, my team and I have reviewed the recommendations on mask for the K-12 setting from experts across the country. We have also consulted with the school Superintendents in Orange County, the Orange County Department of Educations and our colleagues at the Children's Hospital of Orange County. I would like to propose the following metrics as CDPH is planning for the K-12 Mask mandate off- and onramp:

- Overall hospitalization rate.
- Overall ICU capacity.

We will leave it up to CDPH, in discussion with other counties, to come up with the exact numbers for the metrics based on the total hospital bed availability in the State, by region.

Given the unpredictable nature of the coronavirus, moving forward, a mask guidance based on an established metrics will ensure a safe environment for all of our children to be able to achieve their full potential with in-person education.

Thank you for your consideration!  
Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Clayton Chau MD, PhD'.

Clayton Chau