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February 26, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians:

On January 20, 2021, President Biden signed an executive (49 U.S.C. 114) order requiring masks on all forms of conveyances (public transportation). The executive order became effective, February 1, 2021 and requires that all persons must wear masks over the mouth and nose when traveling on conveyances into and within the United States. The order will expire on May 11, 2021 unless extended by the President.

Echols County Schools has consulted with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Georgia Department of Public Health (GA DPH), Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and Georgia Department of Education (GADOE) in determining how this executive order applies to public school buses.

Effective March 1, 2021, Echols County Schools, will now require all drivers and passengers riding a school bus to wear a mask. Masks must be worn when boarding, disembarking, and for the duration of travel. Masks will be required on all regular bus routes and extracurricular activities (athletics, field trips, competitions, etc.).

Exemptions include people with disabilities who cannot wear a mask, or cannot safely wear a mask, because of the disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.).

Links to documents from the CDC and TSA can be found on the school website.

Sincerely,

Vincent M. Hamm, Ed.D.
Echols County Schools
Transportation Director