



**FORT STOCKTON**  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

101 W DIVISION  
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**Fort Stockton ISD School Community**

**August 26, 2021**

**RE: GA-38 and ISD Mask Requirements**

On the evening of August 25<sup>th</sup>, the Fort Stockton ISD Board of Trustees held an emergency meeting to address the health and safety of our school community. In the wake of litigation against Governor Abbott's GA-38 having rendered the mask portion of the order unenforceable and with COVID-19 positive cases trending upwards the FSISD Board made a unanimous decision. The vote was to require masks of all staff, students, and visitors at FSISD facilities pending a decision on GA-38. Today, the Texas Supreme Court rendered a decision validating Governor Abbott's authority.

Our school attorneys advised that litigation will likely continue beyond the state level. However, as a Public School District of Texas, we will hold true to the Board's commitment that the decision was made "in lieu" of the legality of GA-38. Effective immediately mask requirements at FSISD will revert to those outlined in Governor Abbott's order. I formerly wish to thank all the community members, medical personnel, city, and county officials who joined us in a display of solidarity against the pandemic. I also wish to thank the staff and students of FSISD, it is noteworthy how quickly they made the necessary adjustments. Finally, I commend the FSISD Board for leaving no doubt about how much they care for our school community.

It is my hope that all Pecos County residents take note of the noble actions of the FSISD Board of Trustees and are inspired to help fight this disease by choosing to wear a mask when appropriate. On Monday August 30<sup>th</sup>, the FSISD Board will hold a meeting where, among other things, incentives for both staff and students of the district who pledge to wear masks while in school will be discussed. It is an honor to serve the community of Fort Stockton. Together, we will continue the fight to keep our children safe, to provide a first-class education, and prepare them to overcome the challenges that may lie ahead.

**Respectfully,**

**Dr. Gabriel Zamora, CSM**  
**Fort Stockton ISD**  
**Superintendent of Schools**

