March 10, 2022

Dear Faculty and Staff,

The below email will be sent to LCC students today, in accordance with Monday's changes to the statewide mask mandate. Please note that masks will also become optional for employees starting Monday; however, employees with accommodations may still be required to wear masks while on campus. Employees with accommodations should follow the guidelines provided by Human Resources. Questions related to accommodations should be directed to Human Resources.

There are many reasons for people to continue wearing masks, including individuals who are at high risk for severe COVID-19 disease, those protecting household members or who work around high risk children or adults, and others who may just feel more comfortable with some protection. No matter which option you choose, you will be expected to be respectful of the choices of others. Individuals who are immunocompromised, medically fragile, and/or otherwise high risk for severe disease should consult their health care provider about whether or not to continue wearing well-fitted masks.

To date, we have not received any updated higher education guidance from the Governor's Office. Once we receive updated guidance, we will update our safety plan and will update campus.

On behalf of the LCC Emergency and Executive Leadership Teams, I would like to thank you for your ongoing commitment to the health and safety of our campus community.

Stay safe, Nolan

Dear Students,

I am writing to remind you that the statewide indoor mask mandate will end as of March 12, 2022. Although we are still waiting on specific higher education guidance, our plan is to make masks optional for students starting on Monday.

What this means: starting Monday, students will no longer be required to wear masks while on campus, but can choose to continue to do so. There are many reasons for people to continue wearing masks, including individuals who are at high risk for severe COVID-19 disease, those protecting household members or

who work around high risk children or adults, and others who may just feel more comfortable with some protection.

No matter which option you choose, you will be expected to be respectful of the choices of others.

Individuals who are immunocompromised, medically fragile, and/or otherwise high risk for severe disease should consult their health care provider about whether or not to continue wearing well-fitted masks.

We will continue to provide updates about masking and other COVID-19 restrictions as they become available.

Please note that childcare programs have their own program-specific guidance.

Nolan K. Wheeler Vice President of Administration Lower Columbia College