BRAD LITTLE Governor LORI A. WOLFF Administrator Idaho Personnel Commission Mike Brassey, Chair Mark Holubar Sarah E. Griffin Amy Manning Nancy Merrill

August 3, 2021

TO:

Executive Branch Agency/Department Heads

FROM:

Lori A. Wolff, Administrator

Division of Human Resources

CC:

Agency Human Resources

SUBJECT:

Updated Guidance for Mask Usage – COVID-19

On July 27, 2021, the CDC updated <u>guidance</u> recommending that both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals wear masks while indoors in areas of substantial or high transmission rates. Additionally, the CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to schools, regardless of vaccination status.

As we have done throughout the pandemic, Idaho state employees, regardless of vaccination status, are encouraged to follow the CDC and local health district recommendations to protect our fellow Idahoans and our workforce.

State agencies have the discretion to implement necessary protocols to protect employees and the citizens they support, based on the uniqueness of each agency and the population they serve, and should continue to carefully consider CDC and local recommendations when developing such protocols. For example, in instances where employees are customer-facing, working in healthcare, or working close to others, it may be appropriate for those agencies to develop additional protocols to protect the individuals they serve and their employees. If an agency would like to implement more restrictive guidelines than what is being issued at a statewide level, they need to consult with DHR prior to doing so.

If you or any of your staff have questions, please contact your DHR representative.