



CEI Board of Trustees lifts mask and distancing requirements

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho — On Friday, May 14, the College of Eastern Idaho Board of Trustees conducted a Special Meeting to discuss the existing COVID-19 mask and physical distancing requirements in place on the CEI campus. After a brief discussion, the Board unanimously approved discontinuing the requirement for masks and physical distancing, effective Monday, May 17, 2021.

The Trustees deemed that the requirement for masks and physical distancing was no longer necessary after new guidance from the CDC, widespread availability of COVID-19 vaccines, and Governor Little's decision to move Idaho to "Stage 4," which notably means that restrictions on gathering sizes are now removed.

Going forward, masks will be welcome, especially for those who are not vaccinated. The College will be respectful of anyone who chooses to wear a mask. CEI leadership encourages everyone to be vaccinated against COVID-19. It is an individual choice, but in our region, vaccines are readily available to anyone 12 and older. CEI does not intend to require any staff, faculty, or student to be vaccinated.

CEI will continue to "contact trace." If someone tests positive for COVID-19 and was on campus 48-hours prior to the onset of their symptoms, the College will alert those who have come into contact. If an individual has been vaccinated, they may "self-monitor." If not, anyone in proximity to a positive case will need to isolate or document a negative COVID test. CEI will monitor the state of infections in Bonneville County and make procedural adjustments as needed to protect the health and safety of students, staff and visitors.