Board of Education: Rose Gietschier, *President*Belinda Monroe, *1st Vice-President* ◆ Susan E. Gooding, *2nd Vice-President*Charlena H. Croutch, *Trustee* ◆ Dr. Emily Moore, *Trustee*

Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Deborah L. Wortham

Or. Deborah L. Wortham www.rooseveltufsd.org

To our Roosevelt community,

As the 2021-2022 school year quickly approaches, I am writing this letter to inform the community of the health and safety measures the Roosevelt Union Free School District will be implementing to keep our students and staff safe while also building upon the academic success of the previous year. The health and safety of our students and staff is our utmost priority and informs every decision we make. With this in mind, and in accordance with the most recent CDC guidance, the Roosevelt School District is requiring that all students and district personnel wear masks while indoors and outdoors on school grounds.

In order to cultivate and maintain a culture of learning we must first ensure that the environment our students are taught in is safe. The updated CDC guidance acknowledges that there is no substitute for in person learning but that a layered prevention strategy is crucial in stopping the spread of COVID-19 amongst school age students and faculty. To that end, the use of masks, regardless of vaccination status, will allow us to safely return to a fully in person instructional model this fall. The usage of masks by students, staff, and faculty is the first step in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 and the B.1.6.17.2 (Delta) variant. It is also a vital measure in safeguarding the social and emotional prosperity of our students as we enter into this academic year.

The Roosevelt community was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic last year and it is incumbent upon the District to do its part to uphold health and safety measures that will keep instruction in person. Simply put, science tells us that the most effective way to keep a COVID outbreak from occurring, outside of getting vaccinated, is to practice proper mask etiquette and maintain social distancing when possible. The Roosevelt School District will continue to monitor and adhere to CDC guidance as it relates to this ever-evolving situation. To read more about the updated guidance from the CDC, please refer to the document attached to this letter.

The Roosevelt School District is looking forward to a year of continued growth and exceptional learning.

Be well,

Dr. Deborah L. Wortham Superintendent of Schools