



West Central Valley Mask Procedures

The WCV School District is making changes regarding face coverings. This revision is due to the adjustment made by the Iowa Department of Public Health and the Governor's request for face coverings in schools.

Here are the changes and how they can impact your children:

- A. WCV students and staff will be required to wear masks for grades PK-12 when social distancing (6 feet for 15 minutes) is not possible. Those students and staff needing an exemption from wearing masks for medical reasons will need to have medical verification of their condition and those students include individuals who have trouble breathing, individuals unable to remove the covering without assistance and/or individuals with special healthcare or educational needs as determined by an Individualized Education Program (IEP), 504 Accommodations Plan, an individual student healthcare plan, or by a medical provider. Individuals under two years of age are not required to wear masks.
- B. WCV students and staff will be required to wear masks for all outdoor and indoor events, such as attending football, volleyball, XC, basketball, bowling, and wrestling events as well as concerts, plays, etc. Masks will be mandated when social distancing is not possible. Masks are NOT required during recess, physical education class, or classroom activities that are completed outdoors and the social distancing rule can be met. Masks can be removed once seated at the lunchroom table while the student is eating. Once the student is done eating the mask should be replaced. Students and staff who utilize the weight room when social distancing is not possible must rotate throughout the room to reduce the 15 minute exposure time and masks may be removed when a workout is being conducted.
- C. WCV students enrolled in band, chorus, and music will be required to wear masks when performing. If students are not performing, they will be required to wear masks when social distancing can not be attained.
- D. WCV students and staff will be required to wear masks for all school transportation when social distancing is not possible. This includes rural routes, shuttles, athletic events, FFA events, etc.
- E. The WCV School District will require masks on all adults for all outdoor and indoor events when social distancing is not possible.
- F. As per the IDPH, gaiters and face shields are not adequate face coverings. The WCV students must use a manufactured mask (paper) or a cloth mask. See below, a link for proper masks and how to fit and wear a mask. Teachers may still wear a shield while teaching as long as they are following the 6'/15 minute social distancing guidelines. Teachers and staff members are required to wear a mask when social distancing is not possible.
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>
- G. Student athletes are not required to wear face coverings during competition. Masks on the sidelines or the bench are required if social distancing can not be accomplished.
- H. The administration in each building will implement masks breaks appropriate to student age groups.
- I. Teachers, staff and administrators will make every attempt to make this transition to wearing masks a positive experience. Students will be given kind reminders to wear masks, and masks will be provided by the district if students forget or cannot afford to purchase a mask. If a student who is required to wear a mask refuses, we will make every attempt to encourage the student to wear it prior to it becoming a disciplinary issue. Any discipline issued for refusing to wear a mask will be age appropriate and up to administration.
- J. **These guidelines are in effect beginning Monday, October 26, 2020 and will last until the Governor of Iowa lifts the Covid-19 Pandemic or the West Central Valley School Board of Directors deems it necessary.**