

Face Coverings



There is significant evidence that face coverings decrease the spread of COVID-19. “Face coverings” include any material that covers the nose and mouth and prevents respiratory particles from traveling beyond the immediate area of the person wearing the face covering. Face coverings should fully cover the mouth and nose and fit snugly against the side of the face with no gaps. Examples of face coverings include masks, neck gaiters or “buffs,” and face shields. Reusable face coverings should be machine washed or washed by hand and allowed to dry completely after each use.

Students

- All students must wear face coverings when physical distancing of six feet is not possible or not practical. (School entry, exit, classroom, hall passing, bathroom). This includes any time a student is on district property, on district-owned transportation, waiting at bus stops, or at all school-sponsored activities.
 - Whether physical distancing is appropriate shall be determined by a teacher or school administrator.
- Students may remove face coverings while eating meals or snacks. Physical distancing should be maintained as much as practicable.
- Students will be given face covering breaks throughout the day. Students will be spaced at least six feet apart during face covering breaks.
- Parents will be responsible for supplying face coverings for their child/ren if they choose to not participate in the district provided face coverings.
- Exceptions to face covering requirements will be made for those for whom it is not possible to wear face coverings due to medical conditions, disability impact, or other health or safety factors. Requests for face covering exceptions must be approved by the student’s principal and accompanied by appropriate medical documentation.

Staff

- All staff (certified and classified) must wear face coverings when physical distancing of six feet is not possible or not practical. (School entry, exit, classroom, hall passing, workrooms). This includes any time a staff member is on district property, on district-owned transportation, waiting at bus stops, or at all school-sponsored activities.
- Staff may remove face coverings while eating meals or snacks. Physical distancing must be maintained while during meal or snack times.
- Staff and presenters may remove face coverings while teaching if 12 feet distancing is maintained.
- Employees are encouraged to obtain the most appropriate face covering to meet their personal needs. The District will provide \$20 for staff to purchase face covering(s).
- In situations defined as high risk by CDC, such as school nurses and some personal care assistants, the District will provide appropriate PPE.
- When the District determines face shields or clear masks are necessary for instructional purposes (e.g., English Learners, early childhood, foreign language, etc.), shields or clear masks will be provided by the District. When face shields are selected as a matter of preference, the shields must be provided by the employee.
- Exceptions to face covering requirements will be made for those for whom it is not possible due to medical conditions, disability impact, or other health or safety factors. Requests for face covering exceptions must be approved by the employee’s supervisor and accompanied by appropriate medical documentation.

Additionally, pay special attention to putting on and removing face coverings for purposes such as eating. After use, the front of the face covering is considered contaminated and should not be touched during removal or replacement. Hand hygiene should be performed immediately after removing and after replacing the face covering. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/cloth-face-covering.pdf>.