

FACE COVERINGS (“MASKS”)

In accordance with the “Director’s Order Requiring the Use of Facial Coverings in Child Education Settings” issued by the Interim Director of the Ohio Department of Health on August 14, 2020, the Board will enforce the rules set forth in this policy concerning face coverings (“masks”). If the requirement to wear a mask is made applicable to more people or in more circumstances than are set forth under this policy because of a law, rule, regulation, or order from federal, state, county or local government, or governmental agency, this policy shall be read to include such requirement, while in effect, without the necessity of adopting a change to the policy to reflect such requirement.

A mask is any material that covers an individual’s nose, mouth and chin.

Except as otherwise permitted herein, all students, faculty, and staff in a child care setting, school building, or other location that provides care or education to any child in kindergarten through grade twelve shall wear masks at all times when:

1. In any indoor location including, but not limited to, classrooms, gymnasiums, offices, locker rooms, hallways, cafeterias, and/or locker bays;
2. Outdoors on school property and unable to consistently maintain a distance of six feet or more from individuals who are not members of their household;
3. Waiting for a school bus outdoors and unable to maintain a distance of six feet or more from individuals who are not members of their household; or
4. Riding a school bus.

The requirement that students, faculty, and staff wear a mask does not apply when any of the following are applicable, as determined by the educator supervising the educational setting, building principal or Superintendent:

1. The individual has a medical condition, including respiratory conditions that restricts breathing, mental health conditions, or a disability that contraindicates the wearing of a mask;
2. The individual is communicating or seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired or has another disability where an accommodation is appropriate or necessary;
3. The individual is actively participating in outdoor recess and/or physical activity where students are able to maintain a distance of six feet or more, or athletic

practice, scrimmage, or competition that is permitted under a separate Department of Health Order;

4. The individual is seated and actively consuming food or beverage;
5. Where student and staff can maintain distancing of at least six feet and removal of the mask is necessary for instructional purposes, including instruction in foreign language, English language for non-native speakers, and other subjects where wearing a mask would prohibit participation in normal classroom activities, such as playing an instrument;
6. Students are able to maintain a distance of six feet or more and a mask break is deemed necessary by the educator supervising the educational setting;
7. The individual is alone in an enclosed space, such as an office; or
8. When an established, sincerely-held religious requirement exists that does not permit a mask.

If a student is unable to procure a mask for himself/herself, the District will provide a mask.

Violations of this policy by a student may result in discipline, up to and including expulsion. Violations of this policy by staff members may result in disciplinary consequences, in accordance with any applicable collective bargaining agreement. Individuals/groups found to be in violation of this policy may be removed from District property, with the assistance of law enforcement if necessary.

All other individuals entering upon Board property and all occupants of school buses and vans, are required to wear a mask at all times. This requirement applies to, but is not limited to, the following: volunteers, Board members, parents/guardians, community members, contractors, businesses, groups renting the District's facilities, persons attending Board meetings, and persons attending extra-curricular activities.