



Q & A About Face Masks/Face Coverings for Parents, Faculty, Staff, and Visitors

Q: MUST all persons entering the school each day wear a face mask or face covering?

A: YES; children, employees, visitors – all persons must do so or they will not be permitted to enter the school.

Q: MAY students wear their own masks to school or will the school issue masks to them?

A: It is strongly encouraged that children wear their own masks to school since those are the ones that fit best and are most comfortable for them; otherwise, masks will be provided for the students if needed and in times of emergencies (i.e., misplaced or damaged at home or in school)

Reminder: Children riding public school buses to-and-from school will be required to wear face masks/coverings on the school buses.

Q: WHAT is the definition of face masks or face covering – examples please?

A: FACE MASKS/COVERINGS must cover the nose and mouth; they should fit properly and be affixed securely.

FACE SHIELDS, if used, must cover the nose and mouth and must be securely fastened below the chin and the ears.

FACE MASKS/COVERINGS/SHIELDS should be appropriate to a school setting and not be a distraction to the educational process.

FACE COVERINGS/MASKS ARE NOT scarves, bandanas, or neck gaiters.

FACE COVERINGS/MASKS ARE NOT coverings with one-way valves or vents that allow air to be exhaled through a hole in the material.



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Q: MUST the face masks/coverings be worn at ALL times while the persons, including students, are in the school building?

A: YES and NO, as per the following exceptions:

1. Students MUST wear the face masks or coverings at all times during the school day, except when:
 - a. They are eating or drinking, such as at lunch, when they are spaced at least 6 feet apart
 - b. An unsafe condition, such as operating equipment or task that does not lend itself to wearing a mask
 - c. At least 6 feet apart during “face-covering breaks” to last no longer than 10 minutes
 - d. However, ongoing decisions and revisions will be made on a regular basis; and such decisions will be based on the rate of local community transmission and in accordance with the recommendations of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Allegheny Health Department and CDC; mask “breaks” will also be guided by such decision-making criteria
2. Teachers MUST wear face masks/coverings or face shields at all times during the school day, except when:
 - a. They are eating or drinking, such as at lunch, when they are spaced at least 6 feet apart
 - b. An unsafe condition such as operating equipment or task that does not lend itself to wearing a mask
 - c. At least 6 feet apart during “face-covering breaks” to last no longer than 10 minutes
 - d. However, ongoing decisions and revisions will be made on a regular basis; and such decisions will be based on the rate of local community transmission and in accordance with the recommendations of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Allegheny Health Department and CDC

Q: WHAT are the expectations for students and staff if for the proper reasons they are unable to wear a face mask/covering?

A: In these instances, a face shield would be provided by the school as an appropriate alternative; otherwise the person will adhere to the requirements of the Departments of Health and Education and the CDC

Q: WHAT are the requirements for using face masks/coverings on the public school bus?

A: You are to follow the requirements as issues by your local public school district.