

FACE COVERING/MASK INFORMATION

Face Covering Means:

- A cloth or paper mask, scarf, bandana, gaiter or religious face covering that covers the mouth and nose.

Face Covering Does Not Mean:

- Any mask or other item that includes a valve, hole, gaps or openings that facilitate easier breathing, or is made of a material such as mesh with such openings.
- Safety goggles that cover only the eyes or only the eyes and nose.
- A face shield

Face Covering Required:

- Whenever indoors in all district buildings/facilities except where noted under "not required."
- When moving through the building - including hallways, communal spaces and public spaces.
- On all district-provided transportation.

Face Covering Not Required:

- When eating or drinking, provided social distancing is maintained.
- When outside, provided social distancing is maintained.
- When participating in indoor practices or performances that involve singing, acting, public speaking or playing musical instruments when the instrument cannot be played while wearing a face covering, provided that social distancing is always maintained.
- If a student cannot tolerate a face covering due to a developmental, medical or behavioral health condition and a medical exemption has been approved for the student.
- If a student has an IEP/504 and is receiving specialized instruction or service where wearing a face covering is problematic, provided social distancing is maintained.

Wear your face covering correctly:



Note: Disposable face coverings are available in each school office and on buses. Students are encouraged to bring their own mask.

Disposal/Cleaning of Face Coverings:

- The same face covering or shield can be worn throughout the school day unless they become soiled or wet, in which case it should be removed for laundering/cleaning and replaced with a new, clean one.
- Cloth masks should be laundered with regular laundry in the warmest appropriate setting for the cloth used to make the face covering.
- Used disposable masks can be put in a trash receptacle and removed in the usual manner for school or home garbage.

Exceptions to Mandatory Face Coverings:

- Individuals with a medical or mental health condition that makes it unreasonable to maintain a face covering and have received a medical exemption and district approved to wear a face shield instead.
- Children who are 5-years-old and under and not enrolled in kindergarten.
- Children who are under 2-years-old should never wear a face covering.
- Individuals with a disability (504/IEP) may receive alternate accommodations.

Face Covering Exemption Process:

- Students who cannot tolerate a face covering due to developmental, medical or behavioral health condition may be exempt from wearing a face covering. An exemption form must be signed by a parent/guardian and a medical authority. A medical authority includes a medical doctor, psychiatrist, clinical psychologist, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner. This form must be returned to the school principal and the exemption verified and approved by the district.

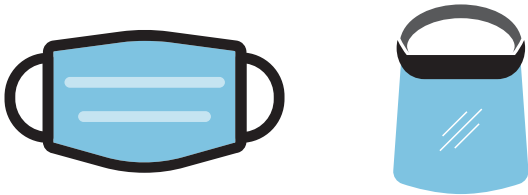
Questions? Please contact your child's school.

FACE MASK/SHIELDS - IHD

STUDENT CHANGES

Face Covering Expectations:

- All K-12 students (not including preschool) are expected to wear face masks/coverings the entire day, even during indoor gym, indoor recess and on school transportation, if applicable.
 - Exceptions include when a student is eating.
- Face masks/coverings are optional during outdoor school day activities.



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STAFF CHANGES

Mask and Shield Expectations:

As updated in the Minnesota Safe Learning Plan on 12/24/20, it is expected staff members simultaneously wear a face mask and face shield during the school day. The reason for wearing both a face mask and a face shield at the same time is to provide the wearer with a greater level of personal protection than when wearing only a mask or only a shield.

The determination of exactly when and where to apply an exemption from the expectation to wear a face shield is the responsibility of the teaching professional.

Staff Situational Exemptions

- When staff are serving students in settings where seeing a person's lips is necessary and they do not have access to a clear face mask, they may choose to only wear a face shield.
- When staff are performing duties in which wearing a face mask and face shield together creates a safety concern (eg. visual impairment while operating a vehicle, working in a kitchen, working in a lab, etc.), the staff member may wear only a face mask for the specific period of time.
- When a staff member does not have students present in their classroom (prep/passing time), they may choose to only wear a face shield.

