



Masks in *a guide for parents* School

In an effort to prioritize in-person learning and minimize exclusions from school, school closures, and disruptions to athletics/extracurricular activities under current PA Department of Health requirements for quarantines and school closures, face coverings will be required for all students, staff, and visitors in all indoor District facilities effective 8/18/2021.

At this time, face coverings will not be required in District outdoor settings. The necessity for this additional mitigation measure will be continuously reviewed and will be modified as conditions warrant. We will work to ensure that students have opportunities to safely remove their masks throughout the school day, including maximizing time outdoors.

If your child cannot safely wear a mask because of a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)/Section 504, please reach out to your school principal to begin the evaluation and/or plan revision process. Compliance with District health and safety protocols is a requirement as published in all District handbooks and the Student Code of Conduct distributed to families annually.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation in helping us keep our schools safely open.

Choosing a Mask for Your Child

Our goal is safety for all. We understand that there are many face covering options for your family. Masks must cover the nose and mouth and be secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears. They may be made of a variety of synthetic or natural fabrics, including cotton, silk, or linen, and masks can include clear plastic that covers the mouth (see images below for approved examples). Based on the latest research on mask effectiveness, the following types of masks will not be permitted: bandanas or handkerchiefs, mesh masks, masks with valves, and gaiters. Face shields are only permitted as an accommodation (see above for more details). If you have questions as to whether your child's mask is acceptable in the school setting, please contact your school nurse.

Please also note that as you are selecting from the many colors and designs available, all school dress code rules apply. Clothing and/or accessories may not advertise or promote the use of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco products, and/or bear offensive words or illustrations.

