



Pittsburgh
Public Schools

COVID-19 Face Covering Directive

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As used in this directive, "face covering" means a covering of the nose and mouth that is secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is wrapped around the lower face. A face covering can be made of a variety of synthetic or natural fabrics, including cotton, silk, or linen. Bandanas and gators are not acceptable face coverings. Face coverings must be worn unless there is an accommodation granted based upon a condition verified in writing by a physician in which case a face shield, which covers the nose and mouth, may be approved.

All employees must wear a face covering that covers their nose and mouth physical distancing of at least six feet apart from other persons is not feasible, including:

- Inside any school district building
- In common areas and/or shared office spaces
- During transit on school buses, with or without students present
- While at school-sponsored events

Additionally, employees involved in food preparation must wear a face covering while they are performing those tasks even when they are alone.

Face coverings may be removed when eating or drinking but the employee must be spaced at least six feet apart from other individuals.

Employees are required to wear a face covering unless they have a medical or mental health condition or disability, documented in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), that prevents the wearing of a face covering in school district buildings. Employees must contact Tiff Waskowicz at twaskowicz1@pghschools.org or 412-529-3607 or Anne Reckhouse at areckhouse1@pghschools.org or 412-529-3627 to request an exemption from wearing a face covering per Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the ADA.

The District will be responsible for articulating to staff, parents, and students, and consistently enforcing the mask compliance requirements set forth in this directive and the School Reopening Plan, as may be amended.

These requirements may be amended by any subsequent order of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of the Governor, Department of Health (DOH), Department of Education, and the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Exceptions

Employees may be permitted to remove a face covering when:

- Interacting with students, such as those with audio/visual disabilities or impairments, where communication could be impacted if an appropriate face covering is worn;
- In settings where an appropriate face covering/mask might present a safety hazard (for example, science labs).

In the event an employee believes that their specific situation qualifies as an exception, then they must contact their supervisor and obtain approval from their supervisor not to wear a face covering prior to removing said face covering.

Dress Code

Face coverings worn during the school day and at school-sponsored events are subject to the District's dress code requirements and other Board policies and rules relating to employee conduct.