



Chesapeake Union Exempted Village School District COVID-19 Face Covering Policy

Staff:

All school staff members must wear a face covering that covers the employee's nose, mouth, and chin, unless covered by an exception recognized by the Ohio Department of Health. *Acceptable face coverings may be homemade, and they may be reusable or disposable. Disposable face coverings must be disposed of at the end of each day. Reusable cloth face coverings must be washed at the end of each day.* A face shield made of flexible plastic that wraps around the wearer's face and extends to cover his or her eyes, nose, mouth, and chin is considered an acceptable face covering (unless otherwise prohibited by the Lawrence County Health Department or the State of Ohio). "Staff members" is an inclusive term and includes but is not limited to all salaried and hourly employees, vendors, contractors, volunteers, student teachers, and delivery personnel.

Exceptions

The face covering requirement may not apply while:

1. The staff member is eating;
2. The staff member is engaged in planning where he or she is able to maintain physical distancing;
3. The staff member is in a location in which all persons present are able to maintain at least six feet of physical distance; and
4. Staff members are engaging in activities where wearing a face covering would significantly impair a student's ability to receive necessary services and another form of barrier is present (Ex. provision of speech therapy using a clear barrier).

A staff member may be required to answer questions and/or supply documentation as appropriate if he or she requests not to wear a face covering. The Superintendent or his or her designee's decision to grant or deny an exception or whether a face shield may be used is final.

Students:

All students in grades K-12 must wear face coverings while: (1) on a school district bus, (2) in the hallways and common areas of school buildings, (3) in classrooms when physical distancing of six feet is not possible, and (4) on school grounds when physical distancing of six feet is not possible.

Exceptions

The face covering requirement may not apply while:

1. The student is eating;
2. The student is engaged in outdoor recess and/or physical education class where students are able to maintain physical distancing;
3. The student is in a classroom in which all students are able to maintain at least six feet of physical distance during instruction; and
4. Students are engaging in activities where wearing a face covering would significantly impair a student's ability to receive necessary services and another type of barrier is available (Ex. administration of medication, provision of speech therapy with a clear barrier).
5. Students are taking part in athletic events and following OHSAA guidelines.

Requests for exceptions under this section as well as those necessary for students with a documented health or developmental condition may be considered by the Superintendent/designee, who may request documentation justifying the exemption.

The District will not tolerate harassment of students who are wearing face coverings or those with recognized exemptions to the face covering requirement and will appropriately discipline students or staff who harass or bully students with exemptions or engage in behavior that interferes with any student or staff member's ability to comply with this policy.

Visitors:

Visitors to District buildings are limited to those enrolling new students and emergencies.

Visitors must wear a face covering and will be provided one if necessary.

Visitors will be asked to leave District property if they refuse to wear a face covering subject to limited exceptions.

General Provisions:

Failure or refusal to wear a required face covering by a staff member or student may result in discipline in accordance with other District policies, handbooks, and/or codes of conduct, as applicable. If a student who is required to wear a face covering does not have one, he or she will be provided an acceptable face covering by a staff member (up to three facemasks provided when a student does not bring one to school).

This policy shall supersede any conflicting provisions in other District policies, handbooks or procedures. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to amend these requirements as necessary to meet federal and state guidelines.