



## FACE COVERING POLICY: SCHOOL DISTRICT HEALTH & SAFETY ACTIONS

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- All staff, as well as all students and all visitors, are required to wear face coverings while in the classroom, on campus, on district property, on school buses or while attending any school event unless they have a written medical exemption.
- A face covering, also known as a mask or cloth mask, is material that covers the nose and mouth. It can be secured to the head with ties or straps or simply wrapped around the lower face.
- Persons younger than two years old, anyone who has trouble breathing (verified by medical exemption), anyone who is unconscious or incapacitated, and anyone who is otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance, are exempt from wearing a face covering.
- Medical exemptions for face coverings need to be signed by a medical provider. Medical exemptions should be turned into any school personnel at the site and uploaded to Q-SIS Student Documents by front office staff (Document Type - Health).
  - If a face covering cannot be worn due to documented medical condition or disability, a face shield must be used. Additionally, the wearer must maintain physical distance from others, to the greatest extent practicable. Face shields must wrap around the face and preferably include a drape at the bottom. **Face shields are not allowed to be substituted for a face covering without a documented medical exemption or disability.**
- In limited situations where a traditional face covering cannot be used based on disability or for developmental reasons (i.e. communicating or assisting young children or those who are deaf or hard of hearing), clear face coverings are required. These should be handled on a case-by-case basis.
- Face coverings may be temporarily removed during designated times. For example: meals, snacks, naptime, or when it needs to be replaced.
- Students should be reminded not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands, or use hand sanitizer, frequently.
  - If needed, staff can reteach and reinforce the use of face coverings, or in limited instances, face shields.
- Disposable face coverings will be available for individuals who inadvertently fail to bring a face covering to school, to prevent unnecessary exclusions.
- Schools will exclude individuals from campus if they refuse to wear a face covering and are not exempt from wearing a face covering under CDPH guidelines.



## STUDENT NON-COMPLIANCE FOR WEARING A FACE COVERING

- It is recommended students bring their own face covering to school daily. For students who inadvertently fail to bring a face covering to school, disposable face coverings will be available to prevent unnecessary exclusions. All district staff share the responsibility of ensuring students are wearing their masks at appropriate times.
- Per California Department of Public Health (CDPH) school reopening guidelines, schools should exclude individuals from campus if they are not wearing a face covering and do not have an exemption. Students will be reminded that masks are required while in the classroom, on campus, on school buses or at any school event. Intentional non-compliance with this requirement will result in the health and safety actions outlined below.

Note - students forgetting to wear a mask should be provided a disposable mask without incident. If it is determined that a student inadvertently removed their mask, it should not be considered as a health/safety or disciplinary incident.

For students who intentionally remove their mask or wear it inappropriately on a school site, school bus or during a school activity, the following progressive actions should be taken:

Health and Safety Incident	Health/Safety Action (Document in Q-SIS Student Visits)
1st Incident**	Warning. Remind and reteach expectation. Notify parent/guardian.
2nd Incident**	Warning and Parent/Guardian Conference. A parent conference should be scheduled with administrator, teacher, parent/guardian and student to remind and reteach expectation with all parties. Family Compact should be reviewed. Review possible next steps should a student continue to intentionally remove their face covering or wear it inappropriately.
3rd Incident**	Student exclusion from in-person learning. Administrator to notify parent/guardian. Short-term transfer to Distance Learning (1 week).
4th Incident**	Student exclusion from in-person learning. Administrator to notify parent/guardian. Transfer to Distance Learning (remainder of grading period).

Students who return to in-person learning and intentionally remove their face covering or wear it inappropriately while in the classroom, on campus, on school buses or any school event unless there is a written medical exemption, may also be subject to disciplinary action based on California Education Code (sections 48900 et al.).

Additional health and safety violations or incidents should be handled by sites based on district behavior guidelines.

\*\* Schools will immediately exclude students from campus if they refuse to wear a face covering and are not exempt from wearing a face covering under CDPH guidelines