

## Face Covering Protocol in the School Building and Outside Grounds

- Face coverings are a requirement of the CSDE reopening plan.
- Face coverings act as a simple barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when the person wearing the face covering coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice.
- When face coverings are worn over the nose and mouth, studies show that face coverings reduce the spray of droplets.
- During the reopening period and until further notice, all students, staff, and visitors are required to use face coverings, that completely covers the nose and mouth, when they are inside the school building or on school grounds, with certain defined exceptions (see Board Policy for Face Masks/Coverings).
- A face shield, without a face covering underneath, is not acceptable for source control.
- If a student or staff member is unable to wear a face covering because of a medical condition, a written notification from a physician is required in order for the Board to permit a medical exemption.
- Exceptions may also be necessary for certain special education students or other special populations approved by the Director of Special Education (e.g., face shields maybe an option for those students with medical, behavioral or other challenges who are unable to wear face covering).
- Teachers of students who cannot wear a face covering due to a medical condition or disability, may consider also wearing a face shield over their face covering for added protection.
- Staff who are assisting with self-care and/or toileting may consider wearing a face shield over their face covering for added protection.
- Transparent (clear) masks may be considered an option for staff (e.g., speech pathologists, pre-k and special education teachers).
- Students who do not wear a mask upon arriving at school will be given a face covering (cloth or disposable paper mask at the school's discretion).
- If a student refuses to wear a face covering and does not fulfill any of the exemptions allowed by the LCS Board Policy for Face Masks/Coverings, the student will be sent down to the Superintendent or the Principal. The parent/guardian will be contacted to rectify the situation, Superintendent or the Principal to explain the options available regarding schooling and for the possible removal of the child from the school setting.
- A staff member or an administrator may consider wearing a face shield over their face covering for added protection when handling a situation where a student refuses to wear a face covering.
- Teachers will be allowed to remove face covering during instruction with spacing increased beyond six feet.
- Students will not be required to wear a face covering while eating, drinking, during moderate to high intensity activities in physical education classes, or when students are outside and practicing 6 foot of social distancing.
- Breaks from wearing a face covering should be supervised by a staff member.
- Mask breaks are encouraged to be taken outside to a provide an easier way to maintain the six feet social distancing requirement.
- If a mask break must be permitted inside, students must be six feet apart, in all directions. Consider larger spaces (e.g., gymnasium, cafeteria) during mask breaks for cohorts of students.
- Staff members and students shall put on and remove face coverings carefully.

- Face coverings to be stored safely (e.g., mask clip).
- Directions for Wearing a Mask Correctly, Removing a Mask, and Caring for Cloth Masks is provided by the CDC can be found on the LCS web page under COVID-19 information.