

MASKS/FACE COVERINGS FAQ

Will all students and staff be required to wear masks at school?

Governor Kate Brown has instructed the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to require masks indoors in all K-12 schools for staff, students and visitors, regardless of whether they're vaccinated or not. The rule applies to individuals ages 5 and older. If using public transportation (including school buses), the rule applies to individuals ages 2 and older. The governor is aligning all Oregon schools with the most recent guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Both recommend mandatory indoor masking in schools because of the recent spread of the delta variant of COVID-19.

What kinds of masks are acceptable?

The District is following the [CDC's guidance](#) on how to select, wear and clean masks. The district is also providing disposable masks (adult and student sizes) to all schools.

Will masks be required on school buses?

As part of a federal mandate, passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school buses. Drivers do not need to wear masks if they're the only person on the bus.

What happens if students remove their masks?

Staff will reinforce and insist that students correctly wear their masks. Non-compliance and refusal will be reported to the school principal for further support.

What should I do if I don't want my student to wear a mask?

Students should apply to our OPTIONS on-line offerings as soon as possible.

Will students be able to remove masks while eating or drinking?

Students will be able to remove masks while eating and drinking and distanced from other students.

Will students be able to remove masks during outdoor recess?

For now, students will be able to remove masks during outdoor recess, as long as they are able to socially distance.

Will students be able to remove masks during outdoor classes, including outdoor P.E.?

Students will be able to remove masks during outdoor classes as long as they are able to socially distance.

Will students be able to remove masks during band?

Students will be able to remove their masks while playing instruments that require use of their mouths (i.e. trumpet). Alternatively, they can opt to wear masks with slits designed for this purpose.

Students who don't play mouthed instruments (i.e. drums) will be required to wear a mask while in band class.

Will students be able to remove masks during choir class?

No

Will students be able to remove masks during P.E.?

Students participating in certain indoor sports during P.E. where masks may present a strangulation hazard may remove their masks. Otherwise, masks will remain on.

Students participating in outdoor P.E. classes, when social distancing can be maintained, will not be required to wear masks.

Is it safe to wear a mask in P.E.?

Students won't be doing overly-strenuous activities in P.E. If you have concerns, you should reach out to your student's P.E. teacher to get a better understanding of that teacher's plan.

When else are masks required?

Students and staff must wear masks when engaging in educational activities such as field trips or off-campus classes during regular school hours and when engaging in educational activities indoors but outside of regular school hours.

Will students be able to take mask breaks?

Teachers can coordinate mask breaks outdoors with at least 6 feet of distancing. In addition, some rooms where adequate space is available, (especially at younger grades)- short mask breaks will be allowable.

Can students wear face shields instead of masks?

A face shield may be worn instead of a mask if an individual cannot wear a mask for medical reasons. Students must have documentation from their doctors. Masks are preferred over face shields, as they provide better containment of small aerosols that can be produced while talking.