



Minnetonka Public Schools
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Dear Families,

Last night, the School Board adopted a revised version of the COVID-19 Face Covering policy. This policy had to be revived because the policy adopted last year was based on the Governor's Executive Order, and it was no longer in effect once that Order ended.

I ask that you review the policy, so you are aware of the requirements within our schools and that you understand the changes to the policy from last year.

Below is a brief summary of the newly-revised policy:

Masks are required for Grades E-8 students, staff and visitors to the Minnetonka Community Education Center, elementary schools and middle schools.

Masks are strongly recommended for Grades 9-12 students, staff and visitors to the High School building.

Face coverings must be worn over the mouth and nose completely, should not be overly tight or restrictive and should not be so loose that the wearer needs to continually pull it up.

The following are allowable face coverings in our schools: Paper or disposable masks, cloth face masks, medical grade masks and respirators and religious face coverings (as long as the religious face covering meets the requirements of the other allowable masks).

Neck gaiters, scarves and bandanas will not be allowed this year. They do not provide sufficient face covering. Face shields worn alone, without a mask, will also not be allowed. Additionally, masks that incorporate a valve designed to facilitate easy exhaling, mesh masks or masks with openings, holes, visible gaps in the material or vents will not be allowed.

The District recommends students wear N95 or KN95 masks. The District will provide starter masks for the first few weeks for students, for those families that would like them, and parents are encouraged to purchase more for their children. The N95 and KN95 masks will be distributed through your student's school, so watch for information from your principal about distribution of those masks.

We will allow medical exemptions for face coverings. For a student with a medical condition or disability, the student's education team (IEP team, Section 504 team, health plan team) will determine whether the student qualifies for a reasonable accommodation and the accommodation to be provided. As a condition to granting a reasonable accommodation, the school district may require an individual to provide a physician's note and/or other relevant information with respect to the condition or circumstance. Requests for reasonable accommodations from the face covering requirement shall be assessed on a case-by-case basis in accordance with applicable federal and state law.

Here is a link to the District's [Face Covering Policy](#).

I also want to remind you that school begins on Wednesday, September 8, rather than the day after Labor Day (as in years past).

Our teachers, staff and administrators are all very excited to welcome you and your students back! Our buildings, staff and safety protocols are all in place, and we're ready begin the new school year.

Enjoy the long weekend, and we will see you very soon!

Dennis Peterson
Superintendent of Schools