

VAIL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FACE COVERING REGULATION

Revised May 3, 2021

Safety is our highest priority. In order to protect the safety of all students, parents, faculty, and staff, all students and staff are required to use a face covering while inside school buildings and district facilities, and while on pupil transportation vehicles (school buses, vans). Students, staff, parents, and community members have the option to wear or not wear a face covering while outdoors when on school or District property. The face covering regulation is in effect for the remainder of the 2020/2021 fiscal year. Students, employees, parents, vendors, volunteers and all other visitors shall follow these guidelines to protect against the spread of COVID-19 and to help ensure the health, safety and well-being of the school community.

GENERAL

- A. Face coverings shall be worn at all times while an individual is inside a school building or inside any District facility and while using District provided transportation, unless an exception applies (as set forth herein).
- B. Face coverings must fully cover the person's mouth and nose and fit snugly against the sides of the face and under the chin with no gaps but allow for breathing without restriction. They are to remain affixed in place without the use of one's hands and are not to have holes.
- C. Per the countywide public health protection resolution issued by the Pima County Board of Supervisors, "face covering" does NOT include any mask that incorporates a one-way valve that is designed to facilitate easy exhaling.
- D. Face coverings should not be worn by children under the age of two, anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.
- E. The District will follow its regular procedures to accommodate or otherwise address the special needs of students, employees, or others with disabilities as those needs relate to the face covering requirements set forth herein.
- F. Face shields may be an acceptable short-term alternative for students, as approved by an authorized District employee. The intent is that students who are approved to wear a face shield will eventually transition to a face covering. Individuals may choose to wear a face shield in addition to a face covering.
- G. Face coverings should not be placed in pockets for later use; to store or transport, they should be folded so the contaminated outside is folded inward and against itself. When possible, the face coverings should be placed in a clean or new paper bag.
- H. Individuals should wash their hands after removing their face covering.
- I. If cloth, the face coverings should be machine washed or washed by hand and allowed to completely dry after each use. Face coverings that cannot be laundered or cleaned should be thrown away when soiled or damaged.
- J. For purposes of this Policy, the term "physical distance" means a separation of at least three (3) feet between student and student and at least six (6) feet between staff and student and between staff and staff.

STUDENTS

- A. This Regulation applies to students in Kindergarten through the 12th grade.
- B. Parents/guardians are responsible for supplying face coverings for their students. Parents/guardians for whom providing case coverings will be a financial hardship should contact their site administrator for assistance. When the District determines clear face coverings are necessary for instructional purposes, clear masks will be provided.

- C. Students shall wear face coverings unless one of the following exceptions apply:
- The student has trouble breathing.
 - The student is eating or drinking.
 - The student can physically distance, as determined by a District staff member.
 - The student is outside on the playground with physical distancing.
 - The student has been specifically permitted to remove the face covering on a case-by-case basis for specific instructional, medical or other reasons, as determined by an authorized District staff member.
- D. Students will be allowed breaks to remove their face covering throughout the day when physical distancing can be maintained. Students have the option to wear or not wear a face covering while outdoors.
- E. Students who fail or refuse to abide by the provisions of this Regulation may be subject to discipline consistent with District Policy and/or exclusion from on-site instruction.

EMPLOYEES

- A. This Regulation applies to all District employees.
- B. In situations defined as high risk by Center for Disease Control (CDC), such as school nurses/health aides and some personal care assistants, the District will provide appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- C. Employees shall wear face coverings unless one of the following exceptions apply:
- The employee has trouble breathing.
 - The employee is eating or drinking.
 - The employee can physically distance.
 - The employee must remove the face covering to effectively perform the employee's job for specific instructional or other reasons.
- D. Employees who fail or refuse to abide by the provisions of this Regulation may be subject to discipline consistent with District Policy.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (e.g. Parents, Volunteers, Vendors, Visitors)

- A. This Regulation applies to all members of the public.
- B. Members of the public shall wear face coverings unless one of the following exceptions apply:
- The individual has trouble breathing.
 - The individual is eating or drinking.
 - The individual must remove the face covering to effectively perform the individual's job or fulfill the purpose for which they are on District property or at a District function.
- C. To accommodate parents and other visitors who are unable to use a face covering for a disability-related reason, the Vail School District has offered and continues to offer opportunities to participate in virtual meetings with staff.

Notwithstanding the school's willingness to work with families to ensure participation, allowing families to meet on campus without the use of a face covering is not an option. Neither state nor federal law requires any accommodation that could endanger others.

Members of the public who fail or refuse to abide by this Regulation may be directed to vacate the premises. The District may take any other action deemed appropriate.