

School District of Janesville -- Mask Metric

The School District of Janesville (SDJ) has worked with the Rock County Public Health Department to establish a data-driven metric to determine the use of a facemask requirement in SDJ buildings. This metric uses data as publicly available from the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov/) (CDC).

The first measure the SDJ will consider is the “Transmission Rate” with four levels:

- Low Transmission (**BLUE**): 0-9.9 total new cases per 100,000 persons in the last 7 days
- Moderate Transmission (**YELLOW**): 10-49.9 total new cases per 100,000 persons in the last 7 days
- Substantial Transmission (**ORANGE**): 50-99.9 total new cases per 100,000 persons in the last 7 days
- High Transmission (**RED**): Greater than or equal to 100 total new cases per 100,000 persons in the last 7 days

At a minimum of on the 1st and 15th of the month (or the next school day closest to those dates should they fall on a weekend or holiday), the SDJ leadership team will review data from the CDC for Rock County, and will make a determination regarding required mask use as follows:

	LOW TRANSMISSION	MODERATE TRANSMISSION	SUBSTANTIAL TRANSMISSION	HIGH TRANSMISSION
Masks inside SDJ Buildings	All Pk-12 students and staff are recommended to wear masks in indoor settings	All PK-8 students and staff are required to wear masks in indoor settings Students, Staff, and visitors in buildings with Grades 9-12 are recommended to wear masks in indoor settings	For both “Substantial” and “High” Transmission levels, all PK-12 students, staff, and visitors will be required to wear masks in indoor settings.	
Masks on School Buses	Per the TSA, mask use is required on school buses and other forms of public transportation. <i>Should this requirement expire, the SDJ will consider buses as an extension of the classroom and follow the table above.</i>			

Note: extenuating circumstances could affect the SDJ decision on mask use requirements, such as elevated school building positive cases, cluster transmission, variant transmission, and state/local mandates. As such, the SDJ reserves the right to implement a face mask requirement should it become necessary. Additionally, this mask use metric only applies to school-day classroom activities. Mask use for extracurricular activities including athletics, clubs, theatrical and musical performances are addressed under different guidelines.

Process

The SDJ leadership team will review Rock County COVID-19 data from the CDC twice a month, looking at the two prior weeks of data. Two consecutive weeks of a change in transmission data will allow SDJ to make a change in its mask use policy. The district will implement any possible mask use requirement change within 2 days of the determination. For the past two weeks, CDC data shows Rock County with a HIGH transmission rate, therefore the SDJ falls in the required indoor mask column for all students, staff, and visitors.

If the Rock County transmission rate were to show two consecutive weeks of change into the “MODERATE” transmission level, the SDJ could move to make mask use recommended for grades 9-12, and required for grades PK-8.

NOTE: *This would impact the district in a general way; certain situations (such as school-specific or classroom-specific positive case clusters) could result in school or classroom mask use requirements.*

COVID-19 Vaccination Incentive - Impact on Mask Use Metric

If the COVID-19 vaccination rates meet 80% levels for all eligible age groups, then the mask use requirement could be changed to “Recommended.”

When the SDJ staff reach a rate of 80% fully vaccinated, **AND** when students district-wide, ages 12-18, reach a rate of 80% fully vaccinated, mask use will be **RECOMMENDED** at the Middle and High School levels, regardless of the Rock County transmission rate data. As of October 4, 2021:

COVID-19 Vaccination Rate	SDJ Staff	Students 12-14	Students 15-18	Students 4-11
	93%	42%	42%	<i>Currently not applicable</i>