



Masking Updates for Students

Masking now required for all outdoor activities where physical distancing is not feasible, except while eating or drinking.

It is strongly recommended but not required that students wear upgraded masks which at a minimum are well-fitting, non-cloth mask of multiple layers of non-woven material with a nose wire. Nothing in this protocol requires that the school provide upgraded masks to its general student population and parental preference should be respected as to the level of PPE the student wears. **However, universal masking with some appropriate type of face covering is still currently required for both indoor and outdoor settings on the school campus and on school buses.**

Know which Masks Provide the Best Protection Against COVID-19		
Good	Better	Best
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fabric mask with three or more cloth layers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Double mask (surgical mask + cloth mask) Fitted medical mask (surgical mask) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N95 KN95 KF94 <p>(N95/KN95s are not recommended for small children because they cannot achieve a proper fit)</p>

TYPES OF MASKS

Cloth masks

Cloth masks work well if they are tight fitting and made of materials that filter out small particles. For extra protection, wear a cloth mask OVER a surgical mask (see [Double masking](#)).

- Good cloth masks have:
 - Two layers of tightly woven cotton with a third layer of non-woven fabric. The third layer could be a mask filter insert or a synthetic fabric such as polypropylene.
 - Nose wires to reduce gaps from the nose.
 - Adjustable ear loops or straps that go around the head to reduce gaps from the face.
- Cloth masks without these features should not be used in higher risk situations if other options are available. Examples of less effective face coverings are two-layer cotton masks, bandanas, and gaiters.
- Cloth masks are washable and re-usable. Be sure to read the mask’s care instructions. Some cloth masks become less effective if machine washed or dried.

Surgical masks

Also called medical procedure, dental masks, or disposable masks. Some surgical masks that are intended for medical use are regulated by the FDA.

- Look for a mask that has multiple layers of non-woven material and a nose wire.
- The fit of surgical masks can be improved with a simple adjustment (knotting and tucking) or by using a mask brace.
- The fit AND filtration of surgical masks can be improved by wearing it UNDER a cloth mask (see Double masking).
- Be aware that there are surgical-style masks that may look the same as true medical procedure or surgical masks but may not work as well.



COVID-19 Masks

- Tip: One sign that a mask is not a real surgical mask is if you put a drop of water on the front of the mask and it soaks into the mask instead of forming beads on the surface.
- Throw the mask away if it is wet/or dirty or after a day of use, whichever comes first.

Do not use masks that:

- Are made of loosely woven fabrics.
- Are made of a fabric that is hard to breathe through such as vinyl, leather, or plastic.
- Have valves, vents, or holes.
 - Exception: The [CDC states](#) that a NIOSH-certified N95 respirator with exhalation valve can be used.

Bandanas and scarves are not recommended (unless you wear a mask underneath).

See CDC [Types of Masks](#) for more information.

TIPS! It is recommended to have more than one mask readily available so that a dirty or wet mask can be easily replaced with a clean one. When you are out, carry a spare mask and hand sanitizer. If your mask gets damp or wet, replace it with a clean dry one.