

WESTERN PLACER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

600 Sixth St, Suite 400, Lincoln CA 95648
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Board of Trustees: Damian Armitage
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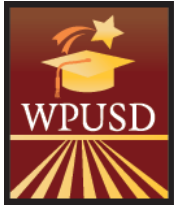
Western Placer Unified School District Student Face Covering Reminder January 21, 2022

Over the past 2 years of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Western Placer Unified School District has done its best to provide a safe and supportive environment where students can participate as much as possible in their learning and in all activities connected to our schools. We have done our best to welcome students, staff, and visitors to our campuses as much as possible, while maintaining safety and limiting the potential impacts from COVID-19. As one of the first school districts in Placer County to open its schools during the 2020-2021 school year, it is our desire that students and staff are safely on campus and engaging in learning.

As we continue to live with COVID-19, it is essential that we consistently implement mitigation strategies across our school sites to ensure student and staff safety. Pursuant to CDPH guidelines, students are required to wear a face covering while indoors and districts are required to develop policies to enforce the universal masking requirement, including by excluding students who refuse to comply. WPUSD holds firmly that it is critical that students have access to uninterrupted in-person instruction, recovery and acceleration of learning, and opportunities to participate in school and extracurricular activities. Therefore, we will do everything we can to avoid excluding students from school for refusing to wear a face covering.

The District will continue to implement the following procedures to support students' adherence to the CDPH face covering requirement:

- Posting signs around campus reinforcing the requirement of face coverings indoors.
- Encouraging teachers to utilize outdoor learning spaces as often as possible to allow for whole class face covering breaks and to allow for individual students to take outdoor breaks as needed.
- Asking parents/guardians to discuss the requirement of wearing face coverings indoors at school with their students.
- Ensuring that masks are available on all district campuses and facilities for students, staff and visitors.
- Offering a face covering to students who arrive to class without one.



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- If a student refuses to wear a face covering, staff will make multiple efforts to address the situation, including:
 - Teachers talking with the student to find out the reason for their choosing to not wear a face covering; offering outdoor breaks to the student if needed.
 - School site admin talking with students to discuss the requirement of wearing a face covering and searching to find additional ways to support the student while still following the CDPH face covering requirement.
 - School site administration communicating with parents/guardians about their child's refusal to wear a face covering.
 - School site administration reminding parents/guardians that if their child has a documented medical exemption from wearing a face covering, their child does not have to wear a mask.
 - Providing an alternative location where the student can complete class/homework.
 - Calling the student's parent/guardian to pick them up.
 - Offering independent study through ATLAS Learning Academy.

If a student continues to refuse to wear a face covering, after multiple attempts by school staff to support them in doing so, they may ultimately be excluded from attending in-person learning and offered independent study until they are willing to follow the face covering requirement. Students formally excluded from in-person learning will not be allowed to enter a school campus until they, and their parent/guardian, submit a signed agreement that they will follow the CDPH requirement by wearing a face covering while indoors.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to provide options and opportunities to students while maintaining the requirements from state mandates. The District recognizes that the last two years have been difficult for our students and staff. We are grateful for the dedicated efforts of our community, including parents and staff, to help us provide excellent educational opportunities for all of our students despite very difficult circumstances.