



## Eastwood Local Schools Face Covering Requirements

Eastwood Local Schools is committed to providing students, employees and visitors with the safest and healthiest environment possible.

In order to do so, the Board will follow the mandates and requirements set forth by the federal government, Center for Disease Control, Ohio Governor, Ohio State Health Department, Wood County Health Department, Ohio Department of Education and other entities (“Directing Entities”) as it relates to protecting the health of students.

Cloth face coverings / masks shall:

- Fully cover the mouth, nose and chin;
- Fit snugly against the side of the face and chin so there are no gaps.
- Not create difficulty breathing while worn;
- Be held secure through either a tie, elastic band, etc. to prevent slipping;
- Be laundered using hot water and a high heat dryer between uses;
- Not include masks designed to be worn for costume purposes; and
- Meet the requirements of the appropriate dress code policies and/or codes of conduct.

General rule of thumb: If you can see through your mask or you can easily blow air through it, it is not recommended. Knitted or fleece masks and bandanas are not permitted.

- *Please note that the efficacy of **neck gaiters** has been questioned and while not currently prohibited for use as a face covering, this is subject to change. It is suggested that for school purposes, using a cloth mask is a best practice.*

The requirements to wear a facial covering does not apply when:

- The individual has a medical condition including respiratory conditions that restricts breathing, mental health conditions, or a disability that contraindicates the wearing of a facial covering (**must be documented**) ; or
- The individual is communicating or seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired or has another disability, where an accommodation is appropriate or necessary.
- The individual is actively participating in outdoor recess and/or physical activity where students are able to maintain a distance of six feet or more or athletic practice, scrimmage or competition that is permitted under a separate Department of Health Order;
- The individual is seated and actively consuming food or beverage;

- Where students and staff can maintain distancing of at least six feet and removal of the facial covering is necessary for instructional purposes, including instruction in foreign language, English language for non-native speakers, and other subjects where wearing a facial covering would prohibit participation in normal classroom activities, such as playing an instrument;
- The individual is alone in an enclosed space, such an office; or
- When an established sincerely held religious requirement exists that does not permit a facial covering.

### **Employee Mask Requirements**

*As of August 14, 2020, pursuant to COVID-19 Health and Prevention Guidance for Ohio K-12 Schools issued by the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Education, all school district employees must wear face coverings.*

- A cloth mask is required throughout the day unless in a room or office by yourself (door should be closed).
- Employees may be permitted to use a face shield without a cloth mask for instructional activities that occur within the classroom when that activity poses a significant challenge with a mask (phonics instruction, safety in the science lab, speech therapy, etc.). Wearing a cloth mask should resume as soon as possible following the activity.

### **Student Mask Requirements**

- All students will need to have a cloth mask with them every day.
- Cloth masks will be required for all riders using Eastwood transportation.
- Cloth masks will be required throughout the day for students in Kindergarten through 12th grade.
- Preschool students are allowed to wear masks to prevent spread, but there are currently no mask requirements for this age group.

*If face masks / coverings are required, and no exception has been applied, students and/or employees who violate this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the applicable Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code, Staff Code of Conduct and in accordance with policies of the Board of Education. Further information regarding discipline for non-compliance and procedures for students who forget their mask will be communicated by the school administrator.*