

OCUSD Return to School Protocols for Students and Visitors

Face Masks

Consistent with guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health, students **must** wear face masks at all times while in school buildings (except when eating or if necessary to play an instrument), and while being transported in any school vehicle. Students are expected to wear a face mask to school each day. Students who arrive at school without a face mask will be provided a disposable face mask. The first mask will be at no cost; subsequent masks provided will result in a \$1.00 charge.

The only exemptions to the face covering requirement are for students who are younger than two years of age, who have trouble breathing, who have medical conditions that make it difficult for them to wear a face mask, or who are otherwise unable to remove the face mask without assistance. Students who are exempt from wearing a face mask may also be provided with appropriate accommodations to ensure the safety of that student and the rest of the school community (e.g., wearing a face shield or remote learning). To request an exemption to the face mask requirement and an appropriate accommodation in lieu of a face mask for your student, please contact Nurse Sharon Hoover, shoover@ocusd.net. A note from the student's physician explaining the need for the exemption will be required for a student requesting an exemption from the face mask requirement. District personnel will contact the parent(s)/guardian(s) of all students requesting exemptions to discuss appropriate accommodations.

Students who refuse to wear face coverings may be subject to disciplinary consequences consistent with the Student Code of Conduct and Board Policy 7:190, *Student Behavior*.

In the event ISBE and/or the IDPH amends their guidance on facemasks, the district reserves the right to make appropriate changes to the face mask policy. The Superintendent will communicate all changes in the policy to families in a timely fashion.

Confirmed COVID-19 Cases

Students who test positive for COVID-19 may **not** return to school, until the student has been fever-free for 72 hours without fever-reducing medication and 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, or the student has two negative COVID-19 tests in a row, with testing completed at least 24 hours apart. Following the period of isolating at home (quarantine) or two negative COVID-19 tests, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) must contact the Nurse Sharon Hoover, shoover@ocusd.net before the student returns to school. During this quarantine, remote learning for students will be available consistent with the District's Remote Learning Plan.

Visitor Protocols

Wherever possible, schools and the district office will attempt to limit any nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations. Visitors, when allowed, may be restricted in their access to district facilities. Pre-arranged appointments may be required.

Visitors should not enter school district facilities when they have signs of any infectious illness.

Adopted: