



Bass Lake Joint Union
Elementary School District
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2021-2022 EMPLOYEE FACE COVERING GUIDANCE

The goal of the CDPH guidance “is to make sure all California students get access to safe and full in-person instruction.” The safe and full in-person instruction depends on a number of factors, including but not limited to:

- Vaccination of all eligible people (ages 12 and older) to reduce COVID-19 rates in the community
- Wearing face coverings while indoors at school by all students and adults
- Face coverings are optional for everyone for all outdoor activities in K-12 schools

According to the CDPH, research has shown that in-person classes can safely happen without spacing requirements (social distancing) as long as other prevention strategies, such as wearing face coverings, are in effect. Wearing a face covering for indoor activities has shown to be one of the most effective and simplest strategies to reduce and prevent COVID-19 from spreading in schools. In short, wearing face coverings for indoor activities allows our children to get back into classrooms for in-person learning with their teachers. Individuals may still be exempted from face covering requirements in accordance with CDPH face mask guidance. Such individuals exempted from wearing a face mask due to a medical condition must wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, so long as their condition permits it. We acknowledge that wearing a face covering while indoors at school is not considered ideal by some, but we must establish and maintain health and safety protocols and procedures to keep our classroom doors open for in-person instruction. None of us wants to experience widespread school closures again like we did last year.

The following is a summary of our District’s current face covering protocols, as per CDPH guidance:

INDOOR FACE COVERING GUIDANCE---STUDENT SETTINGS

- All Staff in a TK-8 school setting, regardless of vaccination status, is required to wear a face covering in accordance with CDPH guidance when sharing indoor spaces with students.
- Employees “exempted” from wearing a face covering due to a medical condition verified by a physician must wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with a drape.
- In limited situations where a face covering cannot be used for instructional or developmental reasons (i.e., communicating or assisting children with exceptionally special needs), a face shield with a drape or a barrier may be used with physical distancing considerations.
- Fully vaccinated employees, when indoors not in the presence of students, are not required to wear a face covering, subject to the employee submitting proof of vaccination to the District.

OUTDOOR FACE COVERING GUIDANCE---SCHOOL SETTING

- Face coverings are OPTIONAL for all outdoor TK-8 school settings, including for students and adults, including outdoor sports and other outdoor activities.
- Unvaccinated staff are to wear a mask if they are with others for an extended period of time, such as attending a sporting event, working on an outdoor project/job, etc., especially when social distancing is not possible.

VACCINATION VERIFICATION

- A copy or picture of the employee vaccination record card is to be sent to Lydia Saldana , at lsaldana@basslakesd.org.