

LPCSC Face Covering Policy

Following current guidance from the CDC which recommends masks/face covering as a measure to reduce Covid-19 spread, the La Porte Community School Corporation has adopted requirements that work in conjunction with Governor Holcolmb's Executive Orders' 20-37 and 20-39. Please refer to the Governor's plan for further details.

In the absence of social distancing six feet, masks are a key element of our overall plan. Success in reducing the spread of Covid-19 is dependent upon the commitment of each individual to show concern for others by complying with the requirements.

We will continue to update this policy as we receive further guidance from the CDC, the Indiana State Department of Health, and our local health department.

Expectations

- All students and staff will be required to wear masks when 6 feet of Social Distancing is not possible.
- Students will wear masks in their classroom seats if they are not at least 6 feet apart.
- Students will be expected to wear masks at all times when riding a school bus.

The Governor's order did not mandate masks or face coverings for grades 3 and under however we are requiring them for all grades.

Lastly, the 20-39 Executive order stated that if desks are three feet apart and facing the same direction, no masks are required. We are going to require masks at this distance but we will take advantage of the leniency offered to provide brief mask breaks throughout the day.

Exceptions

Per the Governor's Orders, face coverings are not required in the following situations:

- While eating or drinking
- While participating in strenuous physical activity, exercise or swimming
- If you have a medical condition, mental health condition, disability, hearing impairment preventing you from wearing a mask
- In private offices, workspaces or meetings where social distancing is maintained
- Incarceration or experiencing homelessness

Mask Enforcement

Challenges will present themselves while the mask expectation is in effect. Students and staff will forget masks, lose masks, break masks, not wear the masks properly, etc. Repeated cases of lost, or forgotten masks will be addressed with progressive discipline which could lead to exclusion. Extra masks will be on hand for staff to distribute when students fail to have a mask to wear.

Students that blatantly refuse to wear masks will be considered "insubordinate" and will be disciplined with consequences ranging from suspension from school, loss of bus transportation privileges, and exclusion from school.