



July 24, 2020

Dear St. Louis Park Community Education Programs Staff and Families:

This week, Governor Walz announced a new Executive Order requiring face coverings for all Minnesota residents in public indoor spaces - including schools - beginning July 25, 2020. Children under the age of five, and those with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that makes it unreasonable for the individual to maintain a face covering, are excluded from this Executive Order.

Face coverings are required indoors for all students over the age of 5, staff, and other persons present in any early learning pre-school, Kindergarten through Grade 12 school building, District Office or riding on school transportation. Face coverings are not required for students or adults outdoors.

Beginning Monday, July 27, 2020, we are asking all staff to come prepared with a face covering and families to come prepared for all students to wear a face covering.

Types of allowable face coverings include: paper or disposable mask; cloth face mask; scarf; bandanna, neck gaiter, or buff; and religious face covering.

The face covering should:

- Cover the nose and mouth completely.
- Should not be overly tight or restrictive.
- Fit snugly but comfortable against the side of the face.
- Be secured with ties or ear loops, if provided.
- Include multiple layers, or equivalent, of fabric.
- Allow for breathing without restriction.
- Be removed from behind the head or ears to minimize hand contact with the face.
- Be laundered and machine dried if reusable.

A face covering is not meant to substitute for social distancing, but is especially important in situations when maintaining a 6-foot distance is not possible.

It is part of our mission to provide a safe and nurturing environment that energizes and enhances the spirit of all learners. St. Louis Park Public Schools Community Education recognizes that COVID-19 has presented challenges for everyone. Please join us to promote health and safety first in our Community Education programs.

Sincerely,

Patrice Howard
Director of Community Education



Face Covering FAQs

Q. How do I wear a face covering?

A. Wash hands prior to putting on and after removing the face covering, following the Centers for Disease Control’s [How to Wear and Remove Your Face Covering](#) guidelines. Be careful to not touch your eyes, nose or mouth while removing the face covering.

Q. How will I store my reusable cloth face covering when I go outside to play?

A. Do not place your face covering in your pocket for later use. Hang on your personal hook with your other personal items.

Q. What to do when eating or drinking while wearing a face covering?

A. You should remove and store your cloth face covering to eat and drink. Ensure social distancing while eating and drinking. To prevent self-contamination, do not pull down the cloth face covering or leave it on in any way while eating or drinking.

Q. Can I pull down my cloth face covering to talk to someone?

A. No. It is important to keep your cloth face covering appropriately in place over the nose and mouth to provide the intended protection. Try to avoid manipulating the cloth face covering as much as possible once it is on.

Q. What should I do if I accidentally touch my cloth face covering?

A. You should wash your hands immediately after touching the cloth face covering.

What Makes a Good Face Covering?

The face covering should:

Cover the nose and mouth completely.

Include multiple layers, or equivalent, of fabric.

Fit snugly but comfortable against the side of the face.

Allow for breathing without restriction.

Be secured with ties or ear loops, if provided.

Be laundered and machine dried if reusable.



Resources

For more information about wearing a face covering, visit Mayo Clinic’s page at <https://www.mayoclinichealthsystem.org/hometown-health/featured-topic/q-and-a-how-to-wear-a-cloth-face-covering>

For directions on how to make your own face coverings, visit the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>



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