



MADISON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Department of Special Services

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Dear Parents,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. As the district continues to plan for the reopening of schools, there have been a number of critical components that have been identified as necessary for any potential reopening model. One such component is the need for all students and staff to wear face coverings at all times. This requirement is based on guidance from local and state health officials as well as the Department of Education.

In an effort to provide assistance to students and families on how to develop safe habits regarding face coverings and build face covering tolerance and endurance, the district has compiled a number of resources for your review. The resources, listed below, are organized based on guiding questions. It is important to note that depending on the specific health needs of students, accommodations will be made with regard to face coverings. Such accommodations will be determined based on written medical documentation. Parents with questions may email me directly at santoraf@madisonnjps.org.

In addition to providing families with guidance and support, the district is also interested in gathering feedback from our community regarding face coverings they have found to be beneficial for their children/students. Subsequently, you will receive an invitation to complete a survey regarding this important topic. Your completion of the survey is appreciated. It is important to emphasize that the district remains committed to ensuring that all students have access to a safe and sanitary learning environment at all times.

Why do all students and staff have to wear face coverings?

- [Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19](#) (CDC)
- [COVID-19: How much protection do face masks offer?](#) (Mayo Clinic)
- [Coronavirus Face Masks and Protection FAQ](#) (Johns Hopkins Medicine)

How can I prepare my child to wear a face covering in school?

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Helping Kids Get Used to Masks](#) (KidsHealth)
- [5 Ways to get your kids to wear masks](#) (CNN)
- [Cloth Face Coverings for Children during COVID-19](#) (AAP)
- [Getting Your Child to Wear a Face Mask](#) (Cook Children's Health Care System)
- [Tips for getting young kids to wear face masks](#) (Cook Children's Health Care System)
- [Helping your child wear a face mask](#) (Robert Wood Johnson)
- [Helping Individuals with Autism Wear Face Masks](#) (Autism NJ)
- [Tips on Face Masking for Children During COVID-19](#) (AAP)
- [How to help your child adapt to wearing a mask](#) (Behavioral Interventions/Solutions LLC)

How do I support my child in developing safe habits for wearing a face covering?

- [How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings Safely](#) (CDC)
- [How to Wash Cloth Face Coverings](#) (CDC)
- [Wearing Face Coverings](#) (CDC)
- [How to Wear a Medical Mask Safely](#) (WHO)
- [Face Masks Do's and Don'ts](#) (CDC)

Thank you for taking the time to review these resources. Your ongoing assistance and understanding is greatly appreciated.

Regards,

Frank Santora

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