

**THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**1207**

Wearing Masks and Face Coverings

In consideration of the recommendations issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, the Panhandle Health District, the State Board of Education and the Idaho Department of Education, and in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of staff and students of the Coeur d'Alene School District during the period of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Trustees is adopting this emergency policy for all students, employees and visitors of Coeur d'Alene School District #271.

This Policy, and the requirements for students, employees and visitors wearing Masks, shall apply at all times when Masks are required by the conditions outlined in the approved *CDA Public Schools Reopening Plan* (the "Plan"). The Plan requires Masks be worn by all students, staff and visitors while the District is in a Category of Yellow, Orange and Red.

STUDENTS:

When required by the Plan, all students in District-operated developmental preschool through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade shall be required to wear a Mask (defined below) (a) while attending school or a school function in any school building, facility or other area of district-owned property, and (b) when riding in school-provided transportation. This policy applies to students waiting outside school buildings before and after school. Students shall wear Masks at all times except for the following:

- When masks are not required by the Plan, such as student athletes during active game play;
- Students may remove Masks for eating or drinking;
- With approval from the Superintendent or designee, students may remove Masks under the supervision of a teacher or other school staff member when appropriate social distancing measures are in place;
- Reasonable accommodations to the application of this Policy may be approved by the Superintendent or designee, on a case-by-case basis, in situations where a student has a documented medical condition provided by a physician (using the form attached hereto);
- Reasonable accommodations to the application of this Policy may be approved by the Superintendent or designee, on a case-by-case basis, due to documented special behavioral or individualized needs pursuant to an Individual Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan; or
- Students may remove Masks on a case-by-case basis for specific instructional needs and other activities such as recess, physical education class and other similar activities that

occur outside of a classroom, and as determined by the Superintendent, Principal or their designee, in which case appropriate social distancing measures will be utilized.

Students who refuse to wear a Mask at school or at a school function under this Policy shall be required to leave the school grounds consistent with *Board Policy 3255* on student dress. Students who refuse to wear a Mask on a school bus will be subject to the Transportation Department's *Behavior Discipline Plan*.

#### EMPLOYEES:

When required by the Plan, all employees of the Coeur d'Alene School District shall be required to wear a Mask while attending school or a school function in any school building, facility or other area of district-owned property. Employees shall wear Masks at all times except for the following:

- When masks are not required by the Plan, such as during isolated preparation time;
- Employees may remove Masks for eating and drinking;
- With approval from the Superintendent or designee, employees may remove Masks when appropriate social distancing measures are in place;
- Reasonable accommodations to the application of this Policy may be approved by the Superintendent or designee, on a case-by-case basis, in situations where an employee has a documented medical condition provided by a physician; or
- Employees may remove Masks for specific instructional needs and other activities, as determined by the Superintendent or designee, on a case-by-case basis, in which case the employee will utilize appropriate social distancing measures.

Employees who refuse to wear a Mask at school or at a school function under this Policy shall be subject to violation of Board Policy 5270 *Personal Conduct* and state laws regarding the evaluation of employee contracts.

#### VISITORS:

When required by the Plan, all visitors to Coeur d'Alene School District shall be required to wear a Mask while present in any school building, facility or other area of a school campus, except for the following:

- When masks are not required by the Plan;
- Visitors may remove Masks for eating and drinking;
- Reasonable accommodations to the application of this Policy may be approved by the Superintendent or designee, on a case-by-case basis, in situations where a visitor has a documented medical condition provided by a physician; or
- Visitors may remove Masks on a case-by-case basis as determined by the Superintendent or designee, in which case the visitor will utilize appropriate social distancing measures.

### MASK BREAKS:

The Board recognizes that students and staff will need appropriate mask breaks throughout the day. These breaks should occur on a regular basis but only in an environment that maintains the overall safety of staff and students. For example, students may be allowed to go outside, to a gymnasium or to another open area that allows for social distancing in a well-ventilated area, for a short period of time. School administrators are encouraged to schedule these in advance and work with teachers and staff to coordinate the timing of the same.

### FACE SHIELDS:

Face shields will generally not be an acceptable replacement for a cloth mask except when approved as an accommodation for certain medical conditions, disabilities or specific teaching activities, to be approved by the Superintendent or designee on a case-by-case basis and when done in combination with other safety measures.

### DEFINITIONS:

**MASK:** A mask is a face covering (generally made of cloth or other tightly woven material including a disposable mask) that completely covers the nose and mouth that is intended to contain that individual's respiratory secretions, as determined by the Superintendent or designee. Appropriate masks should (1) fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face; (2) completely cover the nose and mouth; (3) be secured with ties or ear loops, or be capable of a tight hold to the face by a single tube of fabric (such as a neck gaiter); (4) includes multiple layers of fabric; (5) allows for breathing without restriction and (6) can be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape. While colored and patterned masks are permissible, students and staff are reminded that any mask that is disruptive or distracting to the educational climate and process will not be allowed. Further information on acceptable masks can be found on the CDC website, available at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-make-cloth-face-covering.html>

**NOTE:** Language highlighted above will be included in each section of the policy (Students, Employees, Visitors) in compliance with state and federal law, including but not limited to the American Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101. The Board of Trustees will take action to include this language at a meeting scheduled for September 14, 2020.

### Policy History:

Adopted on: 9/2/12

Revised on: