

School District of Niagara

700 Jefferson Avenue
Niagara, Wisconsin 54151

Superintendent
Nathaniel Burklund

Business Manager
Shawna Lindow

Director of Pupil Services
Terry Hanson

Principal
Scott Trevillian

Curriculum Coordinator/Counselor
Sherri Petschar

To Parents of Students of the School District of Niagara,

As we begin to open District facilities for staff and student activity, and prepare for the beginning of school this Fall, effective immediately all staff, students in K-12 grades are required to wear a face mask/face covering if social distancing cannot be obtained. 4k students are encouraged to wear a mask also.

The school district asks for medical documentation from staff who cannot wear a mask. Students who cannot, the district asks for a parent slip. We understand face coverings may be challenging for many students to wear all-day in a school setting. The district is encouraging teaching staff to pursue outdoor teaching opportunities along with outdoor breaks where students can take a mask removal break.

- If a student absolutely cannot wear a facemask, we ask for parent documentation to confirm the student cannot wear a mask. That document will be provided.

This requirement is separate then Governor Evers' Emergency Order requiring individuals to wear face coverings when indoors, except in a private residence ([view the Order here](#)). The District will require compliance with the Governor's order through this requirement issued by the District and this requirement shall remain in force until modified or withdrawn by the District.

Students are not required to wear face coverings when the individual student is engaged in any of the following activities:

- 1) Eating or drinking
- 2) In the course of any educational service that requires the removal of a face covering
- 3) While sleeping
- 4) While exercising or physical activity
- 5) Swimming
- 6) While giving speeches or presentations in class as part of an assigned project, provided that sufficient distance is maintained between the speaker and other persons in the room (at least 6 feet)
- 7) While operating equipment when wearing a mask creates or increases safety risks (as determined by the instructor)
- 8) When requested to remove the face covering by staff for identification purposes, or because the face covering is deemed to be inappropriate.

“Preparing and Educating Children for Lifelong Success”

District Phone Number: 715-251-4541

The School District of Niagara shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, creed, political affiliation, physical, mental, emotional, or learning disabilities, handicap, gender, gender orientation, age, national origin, citizenship, marital, parental or pregnancy status, ancestry, color, or any other reason prohibited by state or federal law.

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The face covering needs to cover your nose and mouth. Acceptable face coverings include:

- Cloth face covering / mask
- Surgical masks
- Neck Gaiters/Balaclava

Masks should be conservative in appearance and comply with the District dress code requirements. Face coverings that have inappropriate pictures, words, or symbols, including political statements, vulgarity, obscenity, threats or statements of violence, hate speech, or is otherwise intended to or is reasonably likely to disrupt the educational environment will not be permitted.

Teachers and other staff will generally be expected to wear face coverings in the classroom during instruction. Students will be afforded opportunities to take breaks during which time they will be able to remove their masks, and additional efforts will be made for students who require more frequent breaks to support their tolerance of face coverings.

A majority of students will be able to tolerate wearing a face covering, with the planned breaks and additional assistance for those that require additional support. Students unable to wear a face covering due to a medical condition, will need to complete the Student Face Covering Exception Request Form. A parent will need to complete the form for their minor child.

The Board and the Administration recognize that this is not the ideal circumstance for school. We all understand that many are dissatisfied with this requirement. The goal is to return to regular, full-time instruction in school in as normal a fashion as possible at the soonest time reasonably appropriate. Our ability as a school community to pull together and take these safety measures improves the safety and the sense of security for all staff, students, parents, and others coming into the school and will enable better analysis of our experience as we work to return to school.

Sincerely,

Nathaniel Burklund
Superintendent

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