Maricopa County Public Health recently released guidance on the use of face coverings in the school setting, making it a requirement. As a result, BESD has developed a face covering protocol for students.

**Purpose:** This information is meant to provide clarity and establish a common understanding as face coverings will be required by students during in-person instruction and activities while on school campuses. The goal is to educate students and families on the purpose of face coverings as needed.

**Do students have to wear a face covering?**
- Yes, students are required to wear face coverings except when eating or drinking.
- Those with a disability that prevents them from comfortably wearing or removing a face covering, those with certain respiratory conditions or trouble breathing, those who are deaf or hard of hearing who use facial and mouth movements as part of communication, those advised by a medical, legal, or behavioral health professional that wearing a face covering may pose a risk to that person, and those who have religious reasons for not wearing face coverings may be exempt from this requirement or may consider alternative methods of protection.
- Parents/Guardians of students who may be exempt for any of these reasons shall notify the principal of their respective school.

**Why wear a face covering?**
- Face coverings are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms.
- Wearing of face coverings is one possible way to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- We ALL play a part in supporting the health and well-being of our students, schools and the greater Buckeye community.
- Face coverings are most essential when physical distancing is not possible.
- According to the CDC, cloth face coverings are most likely to reduce the spread of COVID-19 when they are widely used by people in public settings.

**When and where can face coverings be worn by students?**
- Face coverings shall be worn in all facilities during interactions with students and staff.
- Face coverings shall be worn when in areas open to the general public.
- Face coverings shall be worn in all areas in which interactions with others are likely (hallways, restrooms, common areas).

*Updated July 19, 2020*
What is considered a face covering?
- “Face Covering” means a covering that fully covers a person’s nose and mouth. The term “Face Covering” includes, but is not limited to, cloth face masks, surgical masks, towels, scarves, and handkerchiefs.
- Face coverings are not surgical masks or medical personal protective equipment.

How does a student get a face covering if they don’t have one?
- BESD will provide students with one cloth face covering upon request.
- Disposable masks will be available at each school in the event that a student forgets or misplaces their face covering.
- Students/families are strongly encouraged to bring their own face coverings to school.

How do I wear a face covering correctly?
- Wash your hands before putting on your face covering
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily

How do I clean/take care of my face covering?
- Cloth face coverings should be washed routinely depending on frequency of use.
- You can include your face covering with your regular laundry.
- Click here to access CDC Guidelines for “How to wash a cloth face covering”

Recommendations to support students, staff and families when wearing face coverings:

General:
- Establish clear/consistent routines and expectations with face coverings in the school setting/classroom.
- Regular communication of routines and procedures to families through school and classroom newsletters, virtual meetings, in-person (if permitted), email blasts and other methods of communication.
- Provide safe opportunities for students to remove a face covering for short periods of time.
- All staff emphasize and message that we ALL play a part in supporting the health and well-being of both the school and larger Buckeye community.
- Message that wearing of face coverings is one possible way to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Work directly with families to support students who struggle with face coverings.
- Due process will be followed in investigating alleged violations for students.
If students cannot wear face coverings due to health reasons, the principal, classroom teacher and other pertinent support staff should work closely with the parents in order to identify a solution.

Acknowledge their frustrations - Students may be frustrated by how coronavirus has impacted their lives. It can be helpful to acknowledge this and normalize their feelings, especially when they may feel like this is another negative way that COVID-19 is affecting their normal way of life.

**K-3:**
- Show pictures of students’ favorite characters from books or cartoons wearing face coverings.
- Allow students to decorate or personalize their mask to develop a sense of ownership.
- Students can draw a picture of their favorite book character wearing a mask.
- Ask parents/families to practice wearing face coverings at home with their children.
- Show students pictures of other children wearing face coverings.
- Speak positively about wearing face coverings.
- Explain, in simplest terms, why it is important to wear a mask. Click here to view a basic video on tips for face coverings.
- Find a safe place for a struggling student to take breaks from wearing the mask.
- Model desired behavior.

**4-8:**
- Use the science of germs to engage students in understanding how face coverings can mitigate spread.
- Discuss with students about the need for face coverings.
- Find a safe place for a struggling student to take breaks from wearing the mask.
- Model desired behavior.
- Let students know that even when their mouth is covered, their eyes still show, and people will be able to recognize them.
- Explain that wearing a mask is an act of kindness. Just like we have taught you to sneeze into your elbow, we’re asking you to wear a mask to prevent germs from spreading. It’s telling others that you care about them and you’re trying your best to keep your germs to yourself.

For more information please access the CDC Information on Face Covering.
Face Covering Protocol

Students / Families

As a result of the Maricopa County Public Health guidance on July 20, 2020, BESD has developed a face covering protocol for students. A separate protocol has also been developed for staff.

**PURPOSE:** This information is meant to provide clarity and establish a common understanding for BESD students as face coverings **will** be required during in-person instruction and activities while on school campuses.

**WHY DO STUDENTS HAVE TO WEAR A FACE COVERING?**
- Face coverings are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms.
- There are certain situations where an individual may be exempt from wearing a face covering. For more information **CLICK HERE**
- Wearing of face coverings is one possible way to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- We **ALL** play a part in supporting the health and well-being of our students, schools and the greater Buckeye community.
- Face coverings are most essential when physical distancing is not possible.
- According to the CDC, cloth face coverings are most likely to reduce the spread of COVID-19 when they are widely used by people in public settings.

**WHAT IS CONSIDERED A FACE COVERING?**
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**HOW DO I WEAR A FACE COVERING CORRECTLY?**
- Wash your hands before putting on your face covering
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
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- Make sure you can breathe easily

**HOW DO I CLEAN/TAKE CARE OF MY FACE COVERING?**
- Cloth face coverings should be washed routinely depending on frequency of use.
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- **Click here** to access CDC Guidelines for “How to wash a cloth face covering”

**WHEN AND WHERE SHOULD FACE COVERINGS BE WORN BY STUDENTS?**
- Face coverings are required to be worn in all facilities during interactions with students and staff.
- Face coverings are required to be worn while working in areas open to the general public.
- Face coverings are required to be worn in all areas in which interactions with others are likely (hallways, restrooms, common areas).

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PROTOCOLO CUBREBOCAS

Estudiantes y Familias

En resultado de la guía de Salud Pública del Condado de Maricopa el 20 de julio de 2020, BESD ha desarrollado un protocolo de cubrebocas para estudiantes. También se ha desarrollado un protocolo separado para el personal.

Esta información está destinada a proporcionar claridad y establecer una comprensión común para los estudiantes de BESD, ya que se requerirán cubiertas faciales durante instrucción y actividades en persona mientras se encuentra en los planteles escolares.

¿QUÉ SE CONSIDERA UNA CUBREBOCAS?

- “Cubrebocas” significa una cobertura que cubre completamente la nariz y la boca de una persona. El término "cubrebocas" incluye, entre otros, mascarillas faciales de tela, mascarillas quirúrgicas, toallas, bufandas y pañuelos.
- Los cubrebocas no son máscaras quirúrgicas ni equipos médicos de protección personal.

¿POR QUÉ LOS ESTUDIANTES TIENEN QUE USAR UNA CUBREBOCAS?

- Los cubrebocas están destinados a proteger a otras personas en caso de que el usuario esté infectado sin saberlo pero no tenga síntomas.
- Hay ciertas situaciones en las que un individuo puede estar exento de usar una cubreboca. Para más información Clic aquí
- El uso de cubrebocas es una forma posible de ayudar a prevenir la propagación de COVID-19.
- TODOS participamos en el apoyo a la salud y el bienestar de nuestros estudiantes, escuelas y la gran comunidad de Buckeye.
- Los cubrebocas son más esenciales cuando no es posible el distanciamiento físico.
- Según los CDC, es más probable que las cubiertas de tela para la cara reduzcan la propagación de COVID-19 cuando son ampliamente utilizadas por personas en entornos públicos.

¿SI UN ESTUDIANTE NO TIENE UNA CUBREBOCAS COMO RECIBIRÍA UNA?

- BESD proporcionará a los estudiantes una cubreboca de tela a pedido.
- Las máscaras desechables estarán disponibles en cada escuela en el caso de que un estudiante olvide o extravíe su cubreboca,
- Se recomienda a los estudiantes / familias que traigan sus propias cubiertas para la escuela.

¿CUÁNDO Y DÓNDE LOS ESTUDIANTES DEBEN USAR SUS CUBREBOCAS?

- Se requiere el uso de cubrebocas en todas las instalaciones durante las interacciones con los estudiantes y el personal.
- Se requiere usar cubiertas mientras se trabaja en áreas abiertas al público en general.
- Se requiere usar cubiertas en todas las áreas en las que es probable que haya interacciones con otros (pasillos, baños, áreas comunes).

¿CÓMO DEBES DE PONERTE TU CUBREBOCA?

- Lávese las manos antes de cubrirse la cara
- Póngalo sobre la nariz y la boca y asegúrelo debajo de la barbilla.
- Asegúrate de que quede bien ajustado a los lados de tu cara
- Asegúrate de poder respirar fácilmente

¿CÓMO LIMPIO / CUIDO MI CUBREBOCA?

- Los cubiertas de tela deben lavarse de manera rutinaria dependiendo de la frecuencia de uso.
- Puedes incluir tus cubrebocas en tu ropa para lavar.
- Clic aquí para acceder a las pautas de los CDC para “Cómo lavar una cubierta de tela para la cara”