



PENNCREST

EMPOWERING LIFE-LONG LEARNERS

Face Covering Protocol for Students, Staff and Visitors 2020-2021 School Year

The World Health Organization has declared the current outbreak of COVID-19 a global pandemic. On July 1, 2020, (updated August 17, 2020) the PA Secretary of Health issued an Order requiring all individuals to wear a face covering when they leave their homes.

When worn properly, face covering helps reduce the spread of the coronavirus [COVID-19] by reducing droplet transmission between people. As a reminder, face coverings in conjunction with increased physical distancing, frequent hand washing, and our cleaning and disinfecting routines assists in mitigation of the spread of COVID-19.

Face covering means a covering of the nose and mouth that is secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is wrapped around the lower face. A face covering can be made of a variety of synthetic or natural fabrics, including cotton, silk, or linen, and, for the purposes of our Health and Safety Plan as well as the Governor's Order, face covering is mandatory. We have purchased a variety of face coverings for students and staff from which to choose.

Guidance

- We will not tolerate mask shaming or contentious interactions involving the wearing or not wearing of masks.
- Face coverings must be worn by all students, staff, and visitors while on school property when social/physical distancing is not possible.
 - We recognized that some students and staff may be unable to wear a face covering for medical reasons.
 - We will follow PA DoH section 3 exceptions. All section 3.A.i. exceptions will require a note or letter from a medical provider.
 - The building principal is responsible for enforcing this face covering protocol. Students, staff and visitors are not permitted to question anyone who is not wearing a mask.
- Face coverings may be removed to eat or drink and during breaks and lunch periods; however, at those times, social/physical distancing should be practiced.
- Students and staff should remain mindful not to unnecessarily touch masks except for removal for meals and breaks.
- Face masks are strongly encouraged or mandatory during school as recommended under current mandates by the CDC and/or PA Department of Health

Revised - August 18, 2020