



ROCKFORD LUTHERAN SCHOOL

2020-2021 FACE COVERING POLICY

*(Below are details regarding Rockford Lutheran's face covering policy, based on the most current guidelines published by Public Health Officials (CDC, IDPH, WCHD). **This information is subject to change based on new information/updates to existing public health guidance.**)*

What is the primary purpose of a face covering?

Per the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), the primary purpose of a face covering is to prevent the wearer from potentially exposing or infecting others. They serve as a simple barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when the person wearing the cloth face covering coughs, sneezes, or talks. To be effective, face coverings must be worn properly and must completely cover both the nose and mouth.

What PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) is required to work in or attend Rockford Lutheran School?

According to the IDPH, ALL persons on school grounds including students, teachers, school nurses, administrative and secretarial staff, food service personnel, custodial staff, etc., must wear a **face covering at all times** when in school or in transit to and from school via *group conveyance* (ie: school buses), unless a specific exemption (see below) applies.

What is Rockford Lutheran School's Policy on face coverings?

- All individuals inside school buildings must wear face coverings at all times (even when social distancing is maintained) unless they are:
 - Under two years of age
 - Are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the cover without assistance
 - Have provided the school with documentation from their physician (see below)
 - A teacher temporarily needing to show facial expressions where it is important for students to see how a teacher pronounces words (see specifics below)
- Face coverings may be temporarily removed at school-
 - When eating
 - When outdoors and physical distancing of at least 6ft can be maintained
 - When playing a musical instrument outdoors with at least 6ft social distancing
 - If using a face shield when other methods of protection are not appropriate (see exemptions below)
- Mask violations will not be tolerated. Mask violations at the Junior/Senior High School can result in immediate suspension. Students are expected to maintain maximum distance in the hallways, bathrooms, classrooms, etc.

- If a student/staff member is unable to tolerate wearing a face covering due to a specific condition or medical contraindication, they are required to-
 - Provide documentation from their physician stating why a face covering cannot be worn
 - wear a face shield in lieu of a face covering (RL requirement)
 - Purchase of a face shield is the responsibility of the student/family/staff member
 - Strictly adhere to social distancing guidelines
- Face coverings must completely cover both the nose and mouth
- Students are required to bring a minimum of 2 face coverings to school each day
 - Face masks must be changed if they become soiled, wet, torn, or no longer fit effectively
- Cloth face coverings should be washed/dried daily (use of a dryer is preferable) and stored in a breathable container between uses
- Families should clearly label student's face coverings

What are acceptable face coverings at Rockford Lutheran?

- **Cloth** face coverings (purchased or homemade) and **disposable surgical masks** are acceptable
- Face coverings can be of various colors and/or patterns, but must be free from inappropriate language and graphics

What are unacceptable face coverings at Rockford Lutheran?

The following face coverings will not be allowed in school, as they DO NOT provide a proven barrier against the spread of respiratory droplets through talking, coughing and sneezing

- Bandanas
- N95 Masks / KN95 Masks / Masks with a Vent
- Masks with a Plastic Window
- Face Shields (except for medical exemptions, as stated above)

Please note that the Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD) does NOT recommend the use of:

- Neck Gaiters
- Athletic Face Coverings
- Neck Warmers

Where can I learn more about face coverings?


www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wear-cloth-face-coverings.html

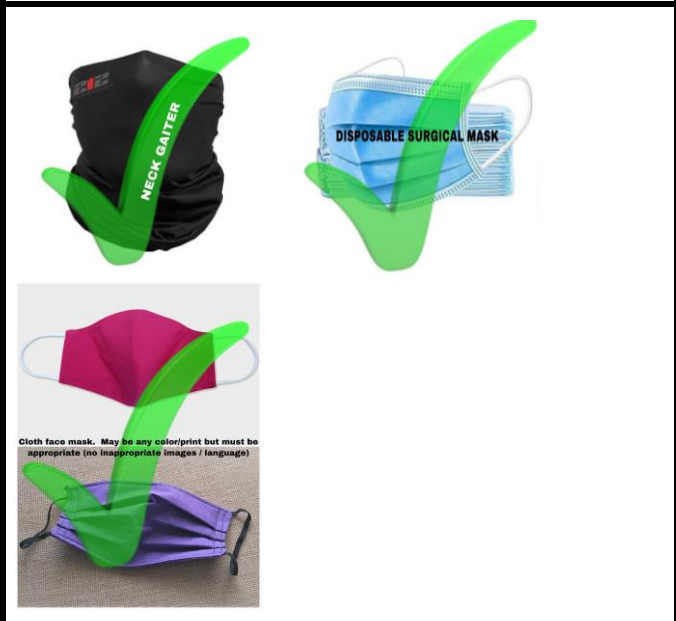
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-make-cloth-face-covering.html>

<http://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/mask-use>

ROCKFORD LUTHERAN SCHOOL FACE COVERING CHECKLIST

Before leaving your home, it is good idea to make sure your face covering is appropriate and also worn properly.

	<p>Is my face covering....</p> <p>Appropriate pattern/message/design? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Fits snug on my face? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Covers my nose? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Covers my mouth? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Covers my chin? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No gaps on the sides of my face covering? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
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ACCEPTABLE FACE COVERINGS	NOT ACCEPTABLE FACE COVERINGS
 <p><small>Cloth face mask. May be any color/print but must be appropriate (no inappropriate images / language)</small></p>	