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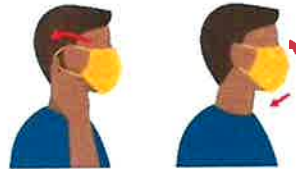
September 10, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Student safety remains our priority at Lackland ISD. Therefore, as we learn new information regarding best practices to mitigate COVID -19 illnesses, we take the necessary steps to include them in our protocols as appropriate. Recently, we clarified the types of masks that best support the reduction of identified close contacts to someone who has been infected with COVID-19. The diagrams below share our current protocols for masks.

Wear your Mask Correctly

- [Wash your hands](#) or use hand sanitizer before putting on your mask.
- Put the mask over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin.
- Fit the mask snugly against the sides of your face, slipping the loops over your ears or tying the strings behind your head.
- If you have to continually adjust your mask, it doesn't fit properly, and you might need to find a different mask type or brand.
- Make sure you can breathe easily.



Gaiters & face shields



Wear a gaiter with two layers, or fold it to make two layers



Not recommended: Evaluation of face shields is ongoing, but effectiveness is unknown at this time.

Children















Choose a mask that is made for children to ensure proper fit.



Check to be sure the mask fits snugly over the nose and mouth and under the chin and that there are not gaps around the sides.

Types of masks

Some masks work better than others to help stop the spread of COVID-19 outside of healthcare settings. Medical masks and N-95 respirators should not be used because they should be conserved for healthcare personnel.

Recommended	Not Recommended
 Non-medical disposable masks	 Masks that do not fit properly (large gaps, too loose or too tight)
 Masks that fit properly (snugly around the nose and chin with no large gaps around the sides of the face)	 Masks made from materials that are hard to breathe through (such as plastic or leather)
 Masks made with breathable fabric (such as cotton)	 Masks made from loosely woven fabric or that are knitted, i.e., fabrics that let light pass through
 Masks made with tightly woven fabric (i.e., fabrics that do not let light pass through when held up to a light source)	 Masks with one layer
 Masks with two or three layers	 Masks with exhalation valves or vents
 Masks with inner filter pockets	 Wearing a scarf/ski mask as a mask

Students are reminded as needed of the appropriate way to wear mask to ensure that they are not considered a close contact based on the definition provided by the Center for Disease Control (CDC). The CDC definition is as follows:

In the K-12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.

Lackland ISD personnel provides appropriate masks for students to wear while at school and participating in school-related activities to decrease the need to quarantine. If you have questions regarding our mask protocols, please contact your child's principal.

Respectfully,

Burnie Roper

Burnie L. Roper, Ed.D.
Superintendent