

Northwestern Face-mask Policy

EMPLOYEES

- Face coverings (defined as face-shield and/or face-mask) are required for drivers (Ohio Department of Education and Ohio Department of Health, 2020)
- Per the Wayne County Health Department employee face coverings will be required by staff when in room with students and within 6 ft. of any student. Employees are required to wear face coverings whenever students are in their classroom, in hallways, and as much as feasibly possible (Ohio Department of Education and Ohio Department of Health, 2020).

STUDENTS

- Face Masks are required for all students riding a bus or other school transportation. If a student refuses to wear a mask, the district has the right to refuse to transport the student (WCDH).
- Note that it is a parent responsibility to provide a face-mask. However, Bus drivers will have disposable masks on the bus for those students who are at their stop who have forgotten or do not have their facemask (Ohio Department of Education and Ohio Department of Health, 2020).
- Students are not required to wear a mask when seated in a classroom and there is a distance greater than 6-feet between them and another individual or if there is a partition between them and another individual. Each principal will make every effort to spread students and/or reassign staff in order to maximize the amount of space between students and minimize the student ratios.
- The teacher or staff in charge of any area may require masks in their classroom or area. This may be the case to protect students or staff with high risk factor(s), for example.
- The teacher or whomever is supervising students may elect to take “mask breaks” outside of the classroom as needed in consideration of potential long periods of mask wearing.
- It is highly recommended that all students wear masks at school.
- Students are expected to wear masks until seating for lunch, assigned area for gym class, classroom, or recess.
- Student Athletes shall practice all face-mask requirements as set forth by OHSAA.

VISITORS

- Visitors will be permitted beyond the office by appointment only.
- Masks will be required of all visitors at all times.
- Any visitor or spectator at any activity or event that is inside or on campus is required to wear a mask or face-covering. In addition, each spectator must practice safe social distancing of 6 feet (unless residing in the same household).