

# Ichabod Crane Central School District

## Face Mask and Face Covering Protocols

Date: August 2021

In an effort to protect both students and staff of the *Ichabod Crane CSD* from the COVID-19 virus, the district has implemented precautions requiring all students and employees, including visitors, to wear a cloth face mask or face covering while working in or around the district at all times. An acceptable face mask or face covering has two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric, completely covers the nose and mouth, and fits snugly against the sides of the face with no gaps. Any face mask or face covering with a vent along with bandanas are not permitted. Neck gaiters may only be worn if they have two layers of fabric or are folded to make two layers.

Only those who are identified by the school district and are medically cleared to wear an N95 respirator per 29 CFR Part 1910.134, are authorized. The N95 Respirator is intended for individuals who are engaging in medical related activities or high risk care situations. Any employee required, other than a healthcare professional or a maintenance employee, to wear an N95 Respirator will need to provide a medical note to the school district stating such.

Cloth face coverings are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms. Cloth face coverings are not surgical masks, respirators, or other medical personal protective equipment.

The *Ichabod Crane CSD* will provide acceptable disposable face masks to staff, students, and visitors (if they do not have their own) and will maintain an adequate supply in case of need for replacement.

The *Ichabod Crane CSD* will allow students and employees to wear their own acceptable face covering. Employees with healthcare provider documentation stating they are not medically able to tolerate face covering will not be required to do so after approval by the school medical director.

Face coverings or face masks may be challenging for students (especially younger students) to wear all-day in a school setting, so scheduled mask breaks will be implemented throughout the school day. One of these breaks will be during lunch and the others will be while students are at least six feet apart. When a classroom has been converted to practice three feet of physical distancing, then the mask breaks will take place in a staggered manner so that the students without masks are at least six feet apart. If students are outside and appropriately physically distanced, they may remove their masks.

Face coverings will **not** be required or placed on:

- Children younger than 2 years old;
- Students where such covering would impair their health or mental health, or where such covering would present a challenge, distraction, or obstruction to education services and instruction;
- Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious; or
- Anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance.