



SCHOOL BOARD OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
School Board Policy Executive Summary
Form D

Policy Number:	8420.02
Title of Policy:	Emergency Policy Requiring Face Coverings
Cabinet Member:	Paul Gibbs
Purpose of Revisions:	To Repeal Policy
Tentative Schedule:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cabinet – N/A• Work Session – N/A• Rule Development (Public Hearing) – 4/11/23• School Board Meeting Information – 4/11/23• School Board Meeting Approval – 5/9/23• Effective Date – upon approval
Summary of Proposed Policy Revisions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Repealing Full Policy
Specific Legal Authority:	N/A
Next Steps:	N/A

**Current
Version**

8420.02 – PROTECTIVE FACIAL COVERINGS DURING A PANDEMIC/EPIDEMIC EVENTS

- A. During times of elevated communicable disease community spread (pandemic or epidemic), the Superintendent will issue periodic guidance through School Board plans/resolution(s) in alignment with public health officials and/or in accordance with government edicts and including any Pandemic Plan developed by the District's Pandemic Response Team.
- B. School settings can be a source of community spread. Wearing face coverings is especially important during these times and can help mitigate the risk of exposure from person to person.
- C. As such, during times of elevated communicable disease community spread, the Superintendent, working with the Department of Health (DOH), may activate this policy immediately by notifying the school community of the implementation of the policy. The Superintendent will then place the measure on the next available Board agenda for Board approval of implementation.

D. Required Face Coverings

Subject to the exceptions set forth below, each student, employee, visitor, vendor or other person is required to wear a face covering at all times, when social distancing cannot be adhered to, while on school district property. This includes, but is not limited to, on any grounds or facility or inside any building or bus owned, leased, or operated by the school district. All students, employees, visitors, and vendors shall have a face covering with them at all times while on school district property even if they are temporarily allowed to not wear a face covering pursuant to one of the exceptions set forth below. An infant younger than two (2) years old and a person with a medical certification are not required to carry a face covering.

E. Exceptions to Required Face Coverings

- 1. While maintaining social distancing (six (6) feet minimum) as much as feasible, a face covering is not required in the following instances:
 - a. Infants - A face covering shall not be required for persons younger than two (2) years old.
 - b. Pre-K through Grade 2 – While a face covering is strongly recommended for students in Pre-K through Grade 2, it shall not be required.
 - c. Medical Certification - A face covering shall not be required for persons who present school district staff with a certification from a licensed health care provider that the person has a medical, physical, or psychological contraindication that prevents the person from being able to safely wear a face covering.
 - d. IEP/504 – A face covering shall not be required for persons who have documented through an IEP or 504 plan that the person has a medical, physical, or psychological contraindication that prevents the person from being able to safely wear a face covering.
 - e. Students with Supervisor's Approval - A face covering shall not be required for a student if the school district staff supervising the student authorizes the student to remove their face covering during that activity provided that the student maintains social distancing (six (6) feet minimum) from other persons when not wearing a face covering.
 - f. Employees - A face covering shall not be required for a school district employee provided that the employee maintains social distancing (six (6) feet minimum) from other persons when not wearing a face covering.

- g. Eating and Drinking - A face covering shall not be required for any person inside or outside a school district facility while such person is stationary and eating or drinking during a planned mealtime and/or snack time. A face covering also shall not be required while any person is drinking while inside or outside of a school district facility.
- h. Strenuous Physical Activity - A face covering shall not be required for any person inside or outside of any school district facility while such person is engaged in strenuous physical activity.
- i. During Receipt of Health Care - A face covering may be removed when removal of the face covering is necessary for such person to receive health care or to undergo a health care examination from authorized health care personnel.
- j. Exigent Circumstances - A face covering shall not be required if a person is experiencing acute trouble breathing, is unconscious or incapacitated, is personally unable to remove the face covering without assistance or it is deemed by school district staff to be necessary to remove the face covering.

F. Types of Face Coverings

1. All students, employees, visitors and vendors are encouraged to wear their own face covering, however, disposable face coverings will be available at all sites. Acceptable face covering include:
 - a. Commercially Produced Face Coverings – Commercially produced surgical masks or respirators are acceptable for compliance with this policy, but are not mandated.
 - b. Cloth Face Coverings – Commercially produced or home-made cloth face coverings are acceptable for compliance with this policy provided the face covering covers both the mouth and nose and fits snugly against the sides of the person's face with little to no gaps.
 - c. All student face coverings shall comply with the school's dress code for accessories. See Board Policy 5511 *Dress and Grooming* and Administrative Procedures 5511 *Dress and Grooming*.

G. Face Shield Use

Faculty and students are allowed to use a face shield, in lieu of a mask, when the instruction requires the ability to see the face of the student and/or the teacher or with an applicable exemption.

H. Student Compliance

Students who do not wear a face covering will first be offered one. If refused, the student will be referred to administration for a Level 1 offense. If the behavior escalates in response to the intervention, a student may be considered for a higher-level offense. Students who persistently violate this policy may be referred to eLearning after a parent conference to discuss the concerns.

I. Staff Compliance

Employees who refuse to wear a face covering may be disciplined according to Board Policy and the applicable Collective Bargaining Agreement.

J. Visitor and Vendor Compliance

Authorized visitors and Vendors who refuse to wear a face covering will not be permitted on District property.

K. Miscellaneous

Any person may be required to temporarily remove a face mask or covering when instructed to do so for identification or security purposes. Failure to comply with such a request violates this policy and may lead to disciplinary or other action.

L. Termination of Face Covering Requirements

The School Board grants the Superintendent the authority to terminate the use of face coverings under this policy when the emergency is declared over, or in working with the DOH or local health experts, it is determined that it is safe for schools to operate without these measures in place. The Superintendent always has the option to bring a recommendation to end the implementation of this policy to the next available Board meeting for the Board's consideration.

Adopted (Emergency) 8/11/20

Adopted (Rulemaking) 10/27/20

Legal

F.S. 1001.41(1)

F.S. 1001.41(2)

F.S. 1001.42(4)

F.S. 1001.42 (8)

F.S. 1003.31

F.S. 1012.23

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**Redline
Draft
(Repealing)**

8420.02 – PROTECTIVE FACIAL COVERINGS DURING A PANDEMIC/EPIDEMIC EVENTS (REPEALING POLICY – NO LONGER REQUIRED)

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Repealed

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Repealed _____