



Oriskany Central School District

Timothy J. Gaffney
Superintendent of Schools

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Kevin M. Sommer
Business Administrator

June 8, 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians and Community Members,

On June 7, 2021, the **Interim Guidance for In-Person Instruction at Pre-K To Grade 12 Schools During The COVID - 19 Public Health Emergency** was released. This information comes from The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

Please note on pages 9/10, which is captured below, updated information regarding the use of masks on school property. The **bolded last bullets** address the updated use of wearing face masks on school property.

Masks - pages 9/10 from the NYSDOH document as of June 7, 2021

- Face masks are required at all times in indoor school facilities, except for meals.
- Responsible Parties will need to consider and address developmental appropriateness, feasibility, and ability to implement such policy in a safe, consistent manner.
- Students who are unable to medically tolerate a mask, including students where such mask would impair their physical health or mental health are not subject to the required use of a mask.
- Responsible Parties should offer assistance to students who may have difficulty in adapting to wearing a mask.
- Responsible Parties must train all students, faculty, and staff on how to adequately put on, take off, clean (as applicable), and discard PPE, including but not limited to, appropriate masks. This training should be extended to contractors and vendors, if the Responsible Parties will be supplying the contractors and vendors with PPE.
- **Effective June 7, 2021, face masks are not required to be worn outdoors on school grounds, including during outdoor school sports. However, Responsible Parties may choose to require face masks outdoors on school grounds, subject to the parameters of this guidance. No student, teacher, staff member, or visitor may be prevented from wearing an acceptable face mask voluntarily on school grounds.**
- Where feasible, Responsible Parties should put in place measures to reduce bi-directional foot traffic using tape or signs with arrows in hallways, or spaces throughout the school, and **post signage and distance markers denoting spaces of six feet in all commonly used areas and any areas in which lines are commonly formed or people may congregate (e.g., outdoor spaces, libraries, cafeterias, health screening stations).**

Please know the Oriskany Central School District will follow the updated guidance as directed by the NYSDOH.

Board of Education

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As always, thank you for your perseverance and support during these challenging times. Please do not hesitate to contact your building principal or me should you have any questions.

Thank you and have a great evening.

Respectfully,

Timothy Gaffney
Superintendent of Schools