

SOUTH ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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September 1, 2021

Dear South Allegheny Family,

On Tuesday, August 31, Pennsylvania's Acting Secretary of Health signed an Order requiring face coverings to be worn in all school entities, including school districts, brick and mortar and cyber charter schools, private and parochial schools, career and technical centers, intermediate units, and early learning and other child care settings, effective Tuesday, September 7, 2021.

On the evening of August 31, 2021, the SASD sent a notification to all families strongly encouraging masks be worn beginning today, and that this would be mandatory beginning Tuesday, September 7, 2021.

A few items to note:

Face shields are allowable, as long as they have a foam piece across the forehead and extend below the chin.

Athletes are to wear face coverings while on the sidelines/not actively participating in the event, but are not required to wear a mask while participating in the contest.

If a person requires an exemption from wearing a face covering, that exception must be documented by a physician in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or IDEA for the student's medical or mental health condition or disability. If a child does not have an existing IEP or 504 plan, one will need to be executed for this accommodation.

The masking order applies to all students, staff, faculty, visitors, or athletic event attendees while indoors in any of our buildings at any time.

With regards to case investigation/ contact tracing beginning september 7, 2021:

If your child is vaccinated, and was less than 3 feet away from a person who has tested positive for a period of 15+ minutes or longer, and does NOT have symptoms, your child does NOT have to quarantine, but it is recommended that they be tested between days 2-5 of the date of exposure to the positive case.

If your child is vaccinated, and was more than 3 feet away from a person who has tested positive, does NOT have symptoms, then they do not have to quarantine or test unless symptoms develop.

If your child is unvaccinated, and was less than 3 feet away from a person who has tested positive for a period of 15+ minutes or longer, and does NOT have symptoms, then they must quarantine for a period of 10 days, but can come back to school after day 7 if no symptoms develop and they have received a negative test after day 5 of the date of exposure.

If your child is unvaccinated, and was more than three feet away from a person who has tested positive, and has no symptoms, they do not have to quarantine or test unless symptoms develop.

If your child is vaccinated or unvaccinated, and has symptoms, they are to quarantine, and get tested. If they receive a negative test, and have no known exposure to COVID-19, and are not currently quarantining, they may return to school 24 hours after symptoms have resolved.

Please note that most close contact alerts will be sent via Skylert moving forward. Please ensure your contact information is up to date in Skyward.

As always, if you are unsure on any part of this, please contact your child's school and we will be more than happy to walk through this together with you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lisa N. Duval
Superintendent