Masking Made Easy

- Face masks help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Since it is possible to have coronavirus without showing symptoms, it is **best to wear a face covering even if you feel healthy**.
- Face masks **help contain small droplets** that come out your mouth and/or nose when you talk, sneeze, or cough.
- Your mask helps protect those around you, and theirs helps to protect you.

**When do I wear my mask?**

- When 6 feet of distance from another person cannot be maintained.
- When in a classroom or other indoor space where 6 feet of distance is not possible.
- When on a bus or other vehicle where 6 feet of distance is not possible.

**When can I remove it?**

- When 6 feet of distance from another person is maintained.
- Briefly, when eating or drinking. If eating and drinking are permitted during bus transport, brief mask removal for eating and/or drinking is permitted.
- When participating in strenuous activities or physical activity, such as athletic events or active play.

**What common mistakes should I avoid?**

- Removing a mask while around others in communal spaces where 6 feet distance cannot be maintained.
- Wearing a mask under your chin with your nose and mouth exposed.
- Touching your or your child/student’s mask while it is being worn.

Graphics from flaticon.com and Johns Hopkins School of Medicine website.
Mask Exceptions for Schools

What are the exceptions to the face mask requirement?

- Children younger than 3 years old.
- Individuals with medical or mental health conditions, or a disability that prevents wearing a face covering.
- Individuals who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance.
- Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing while communicating with others, or for individuals communicating with an individual who is deaf or hard of hearing, where the mouth is essential for communication. In this case, a face shield or alternative protection such as a plexiglass barrier is recommended.
- Individuals who have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (20 U.S.C. section 1414), or an accommodation under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. section 794) that would necessitate exempting individuals from wearing a face covering.
- Children for whom wearing a face covering may interfere with the ability to effectively participate in educational activities or may increase the risk of disease transmission because of increased hand-to-face contact.
- Individuals engaged in athletic activities.

Please refer to the Wyoming Department of Health Guidance for Educational Institutions on our website for additional information.