TSGW Mask Wearing Policy – Important Details

1. **Required:**
   a. Cloth face coverings that:
      i. Have at least two layers of breathable material
      ii. Fit securely over the nose and mouth and under the chin
      iii. Fit snugly against the sides of the face and don’t leave gaps
   b. Children should wear a clean mask each day
   c. Send one extra mask to keep in your child’s locker and one extra mask in his/her backpack each day
   d. Label all masks with your child’s name on the inside

2. **Not allowed:**
   a. Masks with external valves – do not provide sufficient protection for others
   b. Neck gaiters – current data is inconclusive; we are following CDC guidelines
   c. Clear masks – per CDC guidelines; clear materials are less breathable, thereby causing more forceful exhalation and less protection to others

**Mask FAQ’s:**

Q: *Can my child wear a disposable face mask to school?*

A: The CDC recommends cloth face masks. For our students, disposable face masks can be worn as a backup only if they fit appropriately per the guidelines above, are high quality, and are replaced each day.

Q: *What if my child loses their mask during the day?*

A: We will first use the extra masks you supply in your child’s locker and backpack. As backups, the school has a supply of pediatric and adult sized disposable masks. We will find the best fit for your child.

Q: *Will my child have to wear a mask outdoors?*

A: Whenever at least 6-feet of distancing can be maintained outdoors, children will be offered the opportunity for a mask break.

As much as possible, recess will be structured and supervised to provide games that allow for distancing and mask breaks. If a game is not distanced or it is a class’ turn on the playground equipment, they will have to wear their masks.

Teachers will have designated outdoor spaces to which they can take their classes for additional outdoor distanced mask breaks.

Q: *What if my child is having trouble keeping his/her mask on?*

A: Teachers will work with each child to encourage consistent, proper mask wearing throughout the day. We will focus on education and positive reinforcement. Parents must be our partners in working with their children to practice proper, sustained mask wearing. Consistent, proper mask wearing is a prerequisite to being able to learn in-person in our building.
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Images, Removal, and Washing Instructions from CDC Mask Guidance (Updated August 27, 2020)


**DO choose masks that**
- Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric
- Completely cover your nose and mouth
- Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don’t have gaps

**DO NOT choose masks that**
- Are made of fabric that makes it hard to breathe, for example, vinyl
- Have exhalation valves or vents, which allow virus particles to escape
- Are intended for healthcare workers, including N95 respirators or surgical masks

**Caution: Gaiters & Face Shields**
- Evaluation is on-going but effectiveness is unknown at this time

**Special Situations: Children**
- If you are able, find a mask that is made for children
- If you can’t find a mask made for children, check to be sure the mask fits snugly over the nose and mouth and under the chin
- Do NOT put on children younger than 2 years old
How to Clean
Masks should be washed regularly. Always remove masks correctly and wash your hands after handling or touching a used mask.

- Include your mask with your regular laundry
- Use regular laundry detergent and the warmest appropriate water setting for the cloth used to make the mask
- Use the highest heat setting and leave in the dryer until completely dry

For more information, visit our How to Wash Masks web page.