



## THE COTTONWOOD SCHOOL

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Parent/Guardian,

This letter is to inform families of the mask requirements released by California Department of Public Health (CDPH) dated July 7/12/21. CDPH follows the CDC guidelines that was updated 7/9/21.

**The mask requirement includes all school vendor programs and The Lending Library. This includes Vaccinated and Non Vaccinated students.**

- Face coverings will be used in accordance with CDPH guidelines. [face mask](#)
- Masks are optional for all TK-12 outdoor settings only.
- TK-12 students are required to mask indoors, with exemptions per CDPH face mask guidance. Adults in TK-12 school settings are required to mask when sharing indoor spaces with students.
- Students and staff must have a *medical waiver signed by their primary care physician* to be exempted from wearing a face covering. Individuals with a verified medical exemption must wear a non-restrictive alternative (such as a face shield with a drape).
- For students who can't physically wear protective PPE due to a physical or mental disability, other precautions can be taken to ensure safety (distancing, staff and helpers wearing PPE, good hygiene, et).

**Exemptions to mask requirements.**

The following individuals are exempt from wearing mask at all times:

- Persons younger than 2 years old. Very young children must not wear a mask because of the risk of suffocation.
- Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a mask. This includes people with medical condition for whom wearing a mask could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a mask without assistance.
- Persons who are hearing impaired or communicating with someone that is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
- Persons for whom wearing a mask could create risk to the person related to their work as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for cooperation and understanding,

**Belinda Costa BSN, PHN**

Credentialed School Nurse

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