



WE BACK THE BEARS

The mission of the Barron Area School District is to ensure all students reach their dreams while making a positive impact on the world.

Date: August 20, 2020

From: Diane Tremblay, Superintendent

Subject: ***Barron Area School District Level Reopening Recommendations***

Superintendent, Diane Tremblay, wishes to thank the workgroup for their input and expertise captured within these procedures. Some of our changes also reflect the effective feedback we received in our district survey, so we would also like to thank all of our BASD families for your positive partnership.

Please review this document in its entirety.

- We are permitting the following essential activities to occur at the start of the 2020-21 school year up to full capacity:
 - Instruction and extra-curricular activities
 - BASD, ALAW and Montessori BOE meetings
 - Essential meetings
 - Facilities work including construction and architectural
 - Additional activities may also be permitted by administration on a case-by-case basis.
- All such activities listed above will remain at full capacity as a discretionary act, unless otherwise determined, due to circumstances by the Superintendent and our local DHS.
- Each building level will maintain specific practical safe details and procedures for each of our five schools in order to return to full capacity for the 2020-21 school year.
 - These risk mitigation measures will be planned and implemented with consideration to:
 - Floor plans and capacity, schedules and routines for playground, classroom arrangements and student supplies, lunchroom and any/all other procedures that could mitigate risk.
- In addition to this district plan and our building level plans, we also are developing a county-wide plan that will be implemented consistently throughout all county districts. These will all be communicated with you before mid-August.

Administrative Office: 100 West River Ave Barron, WI 54812 p: 715-537-5612 f: 715-637-5161

Barron High School & Advanced Learning Academy of Wisconsin p: 715-537-5627 f: 715-637-1603

Woodland Elementary p: 715-537-5621 f: 715-637-9353 | Riverview Middle School p: 715-537-5641 f: 715-637-5373

Ridgeland-Dallas Elementary p: 715-949-1445 f: 715-949-1617

Almena Elementary & Barron Area Montessori School p: 715-357-3263 f: 715-357-6513

The Barron Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap.

Safeguards that will be put in place universally throughout BASD include, but are not limited to, the following:

- When staff and/or students return to the building they will follow the 6-foot physical distancing when reasonably possible, and face coverings are required indoors or in an enclosed space in all BASD buildings as per the Office of the Governor, Emergency Order #1 including exceptions.
 - For drinking water, only bottle filling stations will be available with disposable cups and/or individual bottles. All other fountains will be shut down.
 - Participants will be encouraged to frequently wash hands and/or use sanitizers, throughout the day including before and after eating, using the restroom, and after activities of which 6-foot distancing was not attained.
 - Sanitizer spray and paper towels will be available at all times in all areas in order to promote frequent cleaning of commonly touched surfaces such as desks, door handles and light switches.
 - Hand sanitizer dispensers will be placed at entry doors of the school district buildings and multiple other locations as determined by building level plans.
 - We will maintain the current building sanitizing plan that has become established by our facilities team.
 - Seating for bus transportation will be directed and assigned according to families and those in closest living proximity. The bus will be loaded from the back to the front and exiting from the front to the back. Routine cleaning procedures will be in place. Hand sanitizer will be available on every bus.
 - We are providing no-contact food service. Lunchrooms, schedules and procedures will be adjusted in order to minimize risks.
 - Groups of staff/students shall not meet in small enclosed offices and should make all efforts to gather either in standard classroom spaces or larger.
 - Students and staff will be served bagged, hot lunches for an undetermined amount of time.
 - A quarantine area will be established within each building in order to mitigate risk to other students and staff if/when illness of a student occurs.
 - Field trips and extra-curricular requests will be based off:
 - County COVID-19 risk level
 - COVID-19 risk level of field trip location
 - Travel distance
 - Any student or family member is free to choose not to attend without repercussions of any form.
- **BASD virtual schooling** will be available for our students who opt out of in-person instruction in the fall.

BASD Family Responsibilities

- *Parents/families must not send children to school if they have a fever or are displaying any of the related COVID-19 symptoms. We are asking that families make plans for daily morning monitoring. Any students with symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend school:*
 - *Cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, sore throat, runny nose, muscle pain, headache and new loss of taste or smell*
- *When in doubt, please keep your child home and consult with your family physician.*
- *Backpacks and school supplies should be cleaned frequently.*
- *Parents and visitors, in general, are encouraged to limit entry into our school buildings, unless essential.*
- *We ask that you review our transportation plan and building level plans with your child, so they understand the importance of our new procedures.*
- *We ask that you thoroughly read any and all updates that may come to you in a timely manner. Our guidelines will remain fluid due to the uncertainty of this COVID situation.*

Thank you so much for your attention to these responsibilities!

Public Requests for Facilities

- The public may request permission to use our building and grounds according to our predetermined facilities usage procedures. We reserve the right to deny any request based on health and/or safety considerations.
- We continue to encourage as much non-district and district business as possible to be conducted via phone or other electronic means. Our motto for this is: **“Call first, and skip the trip.”**
- If in-person service is required and/or requested from our public, this is to be initiated via our predetermined facility use procedures. The following considerations will apply to any non-District request to use our facilities:
 - When a public event is scheduled, each participant may be asked to complete a health *pre-screener* which includes questions regarding past or current symptoms (a written pre-screener document will be provided to each community member to complete when they intend to be present on BASD property). This *prescreener* will determine safe entry. If the answer is “no” to all questions in our *prescreener*, we will permit participation at BASD facilities. If any answer is “yes,” the individual will need to be cleared through Carissa Cutsforth, Administrative Assistant, prior to entry. Again, we reserve the right to deny entry to any person based on health and/or safety considerations.
 - Face coverings are required indoors or in an enclosed space in ALL BASD buildings as per the Office of the Governor, Emergency Order #1 including exceptions.

There will be increased signage at the building entries (English, Spanish, Somali)

Welcome to BASD

Due to the current COVID pandemic:

Please do not enter the building if you are experiencing signs or symptoms of illness.

Hand sanitizers are at the entrance of each of our buildings. Please use them when entering.

Personal protection equipment (face coverings) upon entry is required.

Appointments from non-district staff are to be scheduled by building level supervisors, and/or through our Facility Use form.

Final District Level Risk Mitigation

- We know that we and others cannot stop the spread of COVID-19. The best the District can do is to mitigate the risk of exposure in the school setting. We cannot state that by re-opening our schools we believe our classrooms are safe from exposure to COVID-19. However, our plans are developed based on the idea that we can mitigate, not eliminate, exposure to the coronavirus. You, as a parent, need to decide if you are comfortable sending your child to school based on the safety parameters we are establishing.
- If the School District receives notice that any individual who was present in any District facility or property has contracted COVID, it will be documented according to our District pandemic plan, may result in temporary building or property closure, and a deep clean will be performed. We will take all possible measures in order to not disrupt instructional school hours.
- Notice of COVID cases that involved presence in any District facility or property is mandated to be reported immediately to:

Barron County Public Health--**715-418-1748**

Email: **covid19@co.barron.wi.us**

(Barron County reporting is available 24/7, and they will notify Dunn County if necessary)

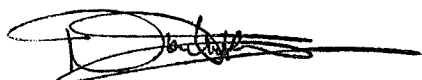
Reopening Recommendations

Page 5

- If a staff member, student or participant is diagnosed with COVID, they will be required to provide written documentation from the public health indicating they are off isolation prior to re-entry.
- The Barron Area School District reserves the right to update or change any of these guidelines or operations as determined necessary based on the evolving situation and DHS guidance.

We want to make sure that we are meeting the needs of all of our BASD families in order to do this effectively with safety in mind. Please do not hesitate to call us with any questions or concerns.

Our goal is to successfully meet your child's academic, social- emotional and physical needs.



Diane Tremblay
District Administrator



Jeff Nelson
Board President



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EMERGENCY ORDER #1

Relating to preventing the spread of COVID-19 by requiring face coverings in certain situations

WHEREAS, on July 30, 2020, I issued Executive Order #82, declaring a public health emergency to combat the uncontrolled spread of COVID-19 throughout the State of Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, on July 26, 2020, the President's COVID-19 task force recommended that Wisconsin consider adopting a statewide face covering requirement due to the increasing number of confirmed COVID-19 cases;

WHEREAS, face coverings are a proven, effective way to slow the spread of COVID-19 without having a significant impact on people's day-to-day lives;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has called on Americans to wear face coverings, with the CDC director stating, "[c]loth face coverings are one of the most powerful weapons we have to slow and stop the spread of the virus – particularly when used universally within a community setting. All Americans have a responsibility to protect themselves, their families, and their communities";

WHEREAS, published scientific research has shown that the probability of transmission during exposure between a person infected with COVID-19 to an uninfected person is 17.4 percent if face coverings are not worn, and 3.1 percent if face coverings are worn;

WHEREAS, modeling by the University of Washington's Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation estimates that a face covering requirement in Wisconsin could save more than 500 lives by October 1 if 95 percent of Wisconsinites wear a face covering in public;

WHEREAS, states across the nation have recognized the importance and effectiveness of face coverings, with 31 states implementing requirements for face coverings in different settings, including: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia;

WHEREAS, Wisconsin must do its part to stop the spread of COVID-19 in the United States, which is leading the world in COVID-19 cases and deaths;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is not only a threat to public health, but also to our economy;

WHEREAS, widespread use of face coverings will slow the spread of COVID-19, allowing Wisconsin's economy to move forward by making sure businesses can stay open and jobs are available;

WHEREAS, all Wisconsinites are called upon to join in the collective effort to stop the devastating impact of COVID-19 by wearing a face covering, not harassing or threatening Wisconsinites who wear a face covering, and showing patience and compassion for those who are unable to wear a face covering safely;

WHEREAS, “Our Constitution principally entrusts ‘[t]he safety and the health of the people’ to the politically accountable officials of the States ‘to guard and protect.’” *S. Bay United Pentecostal Church v Newsom*, 140 S. Ct. 1613, (Mem)-1614 (2020) (quoting *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, 197 U.S. 11, 38 (1905));

WHEREAS, Section 323.12(4)(b) of the Wisconsin Statutes authorizes the Governor to issue “such orders as he or she deems necessary for the security of persons and property” during an emergency; and

WHEREAS, based on input from state and local public health officials, medical professionals, and business leaders, I have determined that a statewide face covering requirement is necessary to protect persons throughout the State of Wisconsin from COVID-19.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TONY EVERS, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this state, and specifically Section 323.12 of the Wisconsin Statutes, hereby order the following:

1. DEFINITIONS.

- a. “Enclosed space” means a confined space open to the public where individuals congregate, including but not limited to outdoor bars, outdoor restaurants, taxis, public transit, ride-share vehicles, and outdoor park structures.
- b. “Face covering” means a piece of cloth or other material that is worn to cover the nose and mouth completely. A “face covering” includes but is not limited to a bandana, a cloth face mask, a disposable or paper mask, a neck gaiter, or a religious face covering. A “face covering” does not include face shields, mesh masks, masks with holes or openings, or masks with vents.
- c. “Physical distancing” means maintaining at least six feet of distance from other individuals who are not members of your household or living unit.

2. FACE COVERING REQUIRED. Every individual, age five and older, in Wisconsin shall wear a face covering if both of the following apply:

- a. The individual is indoors or in an enclosed space, other than at a private residence; and;
- b. Another person or persons who are not members of individual’s household or living unit are present in the same room or enclosed space.

Face coverings are strongly recommended in all other settings, including outdoors when it is not possible to maintain physical distancing.

3. EXCEPTIONS.

- a. Individuals who are otherwise required to wear a face covering may remove the face covering in the following situations:
 - i. While eating or drinking.
 - ii. When communicating with an individual who is deaf or hard of hearing and communication cannot be achieved through other means.

- iii. While obtaining a service that requires the temporary removal of the face covering, such as dental services.
 - iv. While sleeping.
 - v. While swimming or on duty as a lifeguard.
 - vi. While a single individual is giving a religious, political, media, educational, artistic, cultural, musical, or theatrical presentation for an audience, the single speaker may remove the face covering when actively speaking. While the face covering is removed, the speaker must remain at least 6 feet away from all other individuals at all times.
 - vii. When engaging in work where wearing a face covering would create a risk to the individual, as determined by government safety guidelines.
 - viii. When necessary to confirm the individual's identity, including when entering a bank, credit union, or other financial institution.
 - ix. When federal or state law or regulations prohibit wearing a face covering.
- b. In accordance with CDC guidance, the following individuals are exempt from the face covering requirement in Section 2:
- i. Children between the ages of 2 and 5 are encouraged to wear a mask when physical distancing is not possible. The CDC does not recommend masks for children under the age of 2.
 - ii. Individuals who have trouble breathing.
 - iii. Individuals who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.
 - iv. Individuals with medical conditions, intellectual or developmental disabilities, mental health conditions, or other sensory sensitivities that prevent the individual from wearing a face covering.
 - v. Incarcerated individuals. The Wisconsin Department of Corrections shall continue to comply with COVID-19 protocols to ensure the health and safety of its staff and individuals in its care. Local governments are strongly encouraged to continue or create COVID-19 protocols to ensure the health and safety of their staff and individuals in their care.

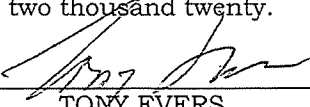
4. LEGISLATURE AND JUDICIARY. State facilities or offices under the control of the Wisconsin State Legislature or the Wisconsin Supreme Court are exempt from this Order. The Wisconsin State Legislature and the Wisconsin Supreme Court may establish guidelines for face coverings that are consistent with the specific needs of their respective branches of government.

5. PRESERVATION OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES. To conserve limited supplies of N95 masks and other medical-grade supplies, individuals are discouraged from using such supplies as face coverings.

6. LOCAL ORDERS. This Order supersedes any local order that is less restrictive. Local governments may issue orders more restrictive than this Order.

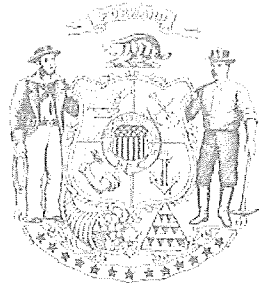
- 7. ENFORCEMENT.** This order is enforceable by civil forfeiture of not more than \$200. Wis. Stat. § 323.28.
- 8. SEVERABILITY.** If any provision of this Order or its application to any person or circumstances is held to be invalid, the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other individuals or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.
- 9. DURATION.** This Order shall enter into effect at 12:01 am on Saturday, August 1, 2020. This Order shall expire on September 28, 2020, or by a subsequent superseding emergency order.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this thirtieth day of July in the year of two thousand twenty.



TONY EVERS
Governor

State of Wisconsin



Why are face coverings required?

Cloth face coverings (or face masks) are recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), and healthcare professionals as an easy way to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when the person wearing the cloth face covering coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice.

Rates of COVID-19 have significantly increased in Wisconsin as more people return to work and have more interactions in public. Wearing face coverings is the simplest way to slow and prevent the spread of COVID-19 virus without requiring people stay in their homes.

When do I need to wear a face covering?

You need to wear a face covering whenever you are indoors or in an enclosed space, other than a private residence, and other people are present in the same room or space. For example, you must wear a mask while you are shopping in a store or using a taxi.

When do I *not* need to wear a face covering?

You do not need to wear a face covering if:

- you are at a private residence;
- you are outside; or
- you are indoors and no one else is present.

You can also remove your face covering in the following situations:

- When you are eating or drinking.
- When you are communicating with someone who is deaf or hard of hearing and you cannot communicate while wearing a mask.
- While sleeping (e.g., firefighters sleeping at a fire station).
- While swimming or being on duty as a life guard.
- When you are giving a religious, political, media, educational, artistic, cultural, musical, or theatrical presentation for an audience, so long as you have at least 6 feet between you and other individuals.
- When you are working if wearing a face covering poses a safety risk, as determined by government safety guidelines or regulations.
- When you need to temporarily remove your face covering to confirm your identify, such as entering a bank, credit union, or other financial institution or when having to show that you match your identification card when buying alcohol.
- When engaging in activities where federal or state law or regulations prohibit wearing a face covering.

Do I need to wear a face covering indoors, even if I can physically distance from other people at all times?

Yes, you need to wear a face covering indoors unless you are at a private residence or you're the only person in the room.

Do I need to wear a face covering when I exercise?

It depends on where you are exercising. You do not need to wear a face covering if you are exercising in a private residence or outdoors. For example, you do not need to wear a mask if you are riding your bike on a trail. But you do need to wear a face covering if you are exercising indoors or in an enclosed space and other people are present, such as a gym, a cycling studio, or hotel workout room.

Do I need to wear a face covering when eating, drinking, or sleeping in indoor places other than my home?

No. But you must put your face covering on again when you are done with these activities. For example, while you're waiting for your table or waiting for a server to come take your order, keep your mask on. This includes outdoor restaurant and bar areas.

I have a medical condition that prevents me from wearing a face covering. Do I need documentation to prove that I don't need to wear a face covering in public?

No. You are not required to carry documentation to prove that you do not need to wear a face covering in public.

Does this order apply to private residences that are also used for business activity, such as a massage therapist who operates out of their home?

No, the order does not apply to private residences.

Where can I get a face covering?

You can make a face covering. The CDC provides both [sew](#) and [no-sew instructions](#).

You can buy a face covering from a store, including online stores.

Also, many communities have programs where individuals can get a face covering for free. Check your neighborhood groups and community organizations for such programs.

Can I wear a face shield instead of a face covering?

No. A face shield does not provide the same protections as a face covering. You are free to wear a face shield *in addition* to a face covering. But a face shield cannot be used in place of a face covering that would otherwise be required by this order.

There may be situations where a face shield can be used instead of a face covering if you are engaging in work where wearing a face covering would create a risk to you, as determined by government safety guidelines, or if you are engaging in activities where federal or state law or regulations prohibit wearing a face covering. But that will depend on the specific government safety guidelines.

Are face coverings required inside businesses and office spaces?

Yes, unless an exception applies.

Do I need to wear a face covering when in my car, in a ride-share service, or on public transportation?

The only time you need to wear a face covering in your own car is if you're traveling with people from another household. You have to wear a mask if you're using a ride-share or on public transportation.

Where can I get more information on how to wear a face covering, safe practices for putting it on and taking it off, and when to wash face coverings?

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has information on its website on wearing, cleaning, and making face coverings (<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/protect.htm>). Additional information can be found on the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html>).

Will businesses be required to provide face coverings for their employees or customers?

No. But many businesses may decide to offer face coverings to employees or customers and are encouraged to do so.

How will the face covering order be enforced?

Local and state officials may enforce the order. Violating the order may result in a civil fine up to \$200.

What do I do if I see someone not wearing a mask, even though they should be?

Nothing. Some people have conditions or circumstances that would make wearing a cloth face covering difficult or dangerous. Just wear your mask and stay six feet away.

What do I do if someone is harassing me for wearing a mask?

No one should have to endure harassment, for any reason. Contact your local law enforcement.

What if the town or city I live in already has a face covering or mask order?

The Governor's order sets a minimum bar. If your local government has stricter requirements, those requirements must be followed.