

Face Covering Policy

All procedures are subject to change. Updated 8/11/2020

As stated in the Ridgecroft School Reopening Guide/COVID-19 Planning Document, Ridgecroft feels that the use of face coverings (cloth face masks, face shields, gaiters) is an important way to slow/stop the spread of COVID-19. We have spent an enormous amount of time researching best practices and finding the proper and acceptable balance for face coverings with a physical distancing approach. The NC Department of Health and Human Services published new guidelines on July 24, 2020 in the “Strong Schools NC Public Health Tool Kit” that indicates face coverings are required for all students (K- 12), teachers, staff and visitors unless the person states that an exception applies, or the person is eating, drinking or strenuously exercising.

Ridgecroft has determined that all students (K-12) and teachers are required to have a face covering with them at all times and wear the face covering at school every day. Teachers and students will be asked to wear their face coverings when 1) entering the school building, 2) during instructional time, 3) whenever physical distancing is not possible and 4) during special circumstances.

These special circumstances include any time the teacher/student leaves the classroom (bathroom, cafeteria, art room, music room, library, office, any change of classroom or time spent in the hallways). Mask breaks (approximately 2 minutes long) will take place during all middle/upper school classes. Mask breaks will take place frequently during the day for all K-5 classes.

Face coverings (masks, shields, gaiters) should have no messaging or verbiage on them. We will have cloth (reusable) “Ridgecroft” masks for sale in the Development office for \$5.00 during the first week of school. There will be youth and adult sizes available. We also have a supply of disposable masks in the front office should a student forget his/her face covering.

Please plan to provide a face covering for your student and practice with your young child before the start of school. Please also review with your student these circumstances in which a face covering is required.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please direct them to Mr. Johnson at rhjohnson@ridgecroft.org.