

Face Coverings and Proper Wearing

Per the PA Department of Health (DOH) Universal masking order for all K-12 school entities (8-31-21), all teachers, children/students, staff, and visitors working, attending, or visiting any Pleasant Valley School District facility are required to wear a proper and well-fitted face covering* indoors, regardless of vaccination status, effective Tuesday, September 7, 2021.

Staff and students should bring at least two face masks to work/school with them each day so that a clean face mask can be worn mid-day at a minimum.

- Pleasant Valley will adhere to the definitions provided in the DOH order for what constitutes a proper and well fitted face covering. Therefore, face coverings must meet the following definition:

***From the ORDER (8-31-21), Section 1, p. 3:**

“Face covering” means covering of the nose and mouth with material that is secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is wrapped around the lower face. A “face covering” can be made of a variety of synthetic or natural fabrics, including cotton, silk, or linen.

Pleasant Valley staff will monitor students and visitors for proper face coverings and fit.

- **If**, for some reason a face covering as described above cannot be worn after all options have been exhausted, the DOH Order does provide as an alternative the wearing of a plastic face shield** that “covers the nose and mouth, extends below the chin and to the ears, and leaves no exposed gap between the forehead and the shield’s headpiece “
DOH ORDER, p.3

Pleasant Valley will allow as an alternative the wearing of a plastic face shield that complies with the definition and requirements for proper fit as described above.

***The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has advised there is currently not enough evidence to determine how much protection a face shield provides to individuals around the person wearing the face shield because of gaps where respiratory droplets may escape. The CDC does state, however, that face shields may still be an option in situations where wearing a cloth face covering is not otherwise feasible. All options should be exhausted before a face shield is considered.*