Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Awareness Training For Schools- COVID-19

Originally developed by the Department of Safety and Professional Services

- Adapted by the Department of Public Instruction
Objectives

Provide information on the purpose, selection, and use of PPE in schools

Based on current information – August 3, 2020
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Personal Protective Equipment, commonly referred to as PPE, is equipment worn to minimize exposure to hazards that cause serious injuries and illnesses.
COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease 2019) is a respiratory illness that can spread easily from person-to-person. When a person who has COVID-19 coughs, sneezes, talks, sings, or yells they spray respiratory droplets (spit) with parts of the virus into the air and on to surfaces.

- If a nearby healthy person breathes in the virus, they can become infected.
- The virus can also enter a person’s body if they touch an unclean surface with the virus on it, and then touch their face, mouth, or eyes with unwashed hands.
COVID-19 and PPE

• Since COVID-19 is spread via respiratory droplets extra precaution is being taken and an emphasis is being placed on protecting school staff (and students) from respiratory droplets or sputum.

• Under COVID-19 facial coverings are an infection control and mitigation measure for use by all school staff and students. Cloth facial coverings are not considered PPE by the Department of Safety and Professional Services.

• Everyone is recommended to wear facial coverings to protect others from the wearer.

*Currently Wisconsin is under an executive order requiring facial coverings
PPE Basics

• PPE is provided by school districts (as employers) to school staff who are deemed as needing (extra) protection due to “occupational exposure”.

• Certain school staff are recommended to use PPE based upon their job duties and risk of exposure to body fluids.

• See your district’s Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan – same principles exist.

See DPI’s [PPE Considerations for Schools](#)
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Consideration for Schools

- **Cloth Face Covering** - protect others from wearer
- **Fluid Resistant Surgical Mask** - protect mouth/nose from liquid splashes
- **N95 or higher respirator (half/full face or PAPR)** - protect mouth/nose
- **Protective Glasses or Goggles** - protect eyes from liquid splashes
- **Face Shield** - protect face, mouth, nose, and eyes from splashes
- **Gown (Disposable)** - protect clothing
- **Lab Coat or other washable Cloth Covering (Scrub Jacket)** - protect clothing
- **Gloves** - protect hands
Cloth Face Covering

- May be commercially produced or improvised (i.e., homemade) garments, scarves, bandanas, or items made from t-shirts or other fabrics
- **Are not considered personal protective equipment (PPE)**
- Will not protect the wearer against airborne transmissible infectious agents due to loose fit and lack of seal or inadequate filtration
- May be disposable or reusable after proper washing
- Are worn in public over the nose and mouth to contain the wearer's potentially infectious respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks and to limit the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), to others
Cloth Face Covering

• Wear a cloth face covering to help protect others in case you’re infected but don’t have symptoms
• Keep the covering on your face the entire time you’re in public
• The cloth face covering needs to cover over nose to below chin
• Don’t put the covering around your neck or up on your forehead
• Don’t touch the cloth face covering when you are wearing it, and, if you do, wash your hands

Should NOT be worn when:
• Person is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance
• The child is less than 2 years old
Surgical Mask

• Are typically cleared by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as medical devices (though not all devices that look like surgical masks are actually medical-grade, cleared devices)
• Protects others from the wearer’s potentially infectious respiratory droplets
• Are fluid resistant and provides the wearer protection against large droplets, splashes, or sprays of bodily or other hazardous fluids
• In this capacity, surgical masks are considered PPE
• Under OSHA’s PPE standard (29 CFR 1910.132), employers must provide any necessary PPE at no-cost to workers
• Should be placed on sick individuals to prevent the transmission of respiratory infections that spread by large droplets
• Will not protect the wearer against airborne transmissible infectious agents due to loose fit and lack of seal or inadequate filtration
• No fit tested required
Surgical Mask vs Cloth Face Covering

**Mask**
- Cleared by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- **Fluid resistant** and provides the wearer protection against large droplets, splashes, or sprays of bodily or other hazardous fluids
- Protects the patient from the wearer’s respiratory emissions
- Are loose-fitting
- No fit test required
- No user seal check required
- Does NOT provide the wearer with a reliable level of protection from inhaling smaller airborne particles and is not considered respiratory protection
- Leakage occurs around the edge of the mask when the user inhales
- Disposable

**Cloth Face Covering**
- Cloth face coverings may slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others
- COVID-19 can be spread by people who do not have symptoms and do not know that they are infected
- Cloth face coverings provide an extra layer to help prevent the respiratory droplets from traveling in the air and onto other people
- Washable/reusable
Face shields

- Face shields protect face, noise, mouth and eyes
- Should cover forehead, extend below chin and wrap around side of face
- Disposable face shields should only be worn for a single use
- Reusable face shields should be cleaned and disinfected after each use
- Goggles or safety glasses need to be worn under a face shield
- NOTE: It is not known if face shields provide any benefit as source control to protect others from the spray of respiratory particles
  - CDC does not recommend use of face shields for normal everyday activities or as a substitute for cloth face coverings
  - Some people may choose to use a face shield when sustained close contact with other people is expected
  - If face shields are used without a mask, they should wrap around the sides of the wearer’s face and extend to below the chin
Eye Protection

It is important to make sure that your eye and face protection is put on properly and comfortably so that you are not adjusting it with your contaminated hands or that it falls off during use.
When to Use Gloves

- When you are routinely cleaning and disinfecting
- Follow precautions listed on the disinfectant product label, which may include:
  - wearing gloves (reusable or disposable) and
  - having good ventilation by turning on a fan or opening a window to get fresh air into the room you’re cleaning
- Possible contact with Bloodborne pathogens
- Use disposable gloves when touching or having contact with blood, stool, or body fluids, such as saliva, mucus, vomit, and urine
- Do NOT reuse disposable gloves
For Healthcare Professionals (HCP)

FFR

N95

Half/Full Face Respirator

PAPR

These respirators require:

- Comprehensive program (including medical clearance, training, and fit testing) that complies with OSHA’s Respiratory Protection Standard
- Program should also include provisions for the cleaning, disinfecting, inspection, repair, and storage of respirators used by HCP on the job according to manufacturer’s instructions

When to Wear: performing procedures, such as suctioning that aerosolize respiratory secretions

Not everyone can use one due to their own health issues

Specific training will be provided if you wear a N95, Half/Full Face or PAPR
Filtering Facepiece Respirators (FFR)

- Are used to prevent workers from inhaling small particles, including airborne transmissible or aerosolized infectious agents
- Must be provided and used in accordance with OSHA's Respiratory Protection standard (29 CFR 1910.134)
- Must be certified by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
- Require proper training, fit testing, availability of appropriate medical evaluations and monitoring, cleaning, and oversight by a knowledgeable staff member
- FFRs, such as a N95, may be used voluntarily, if permitted by the employer
- If an employer permits voluntary use of FFRs, employees must receive the information contained in Appendix D of OSHA's Respiratory Protection standard (29 CFR 1910.134)
Respirator - N95

- Evaluated, tested and approved by NIOSH
- Reduces wearer’s exposure to particles including small particle aerosols and large droplets
- Tight fitting face seal
- Fit testing required
- User seal check required each time respirator is put on
- Filters out at least 95% of airborne particles including large and small particles
- When properly fitted and worn, minimal leakage occurs around respirator edges when user inhales
- Single use, or replacement if damaged, deformed or soiled

Power Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR)

- Reusable components and replaceable filters or cartridges
- Can be used to protect against gases, vapors, or particles, if equipped with the appropriate cartage, canister or filter
- Battery -powered with blower that pulls air thru attached filters or cartridges
- Provides eye protection
- Low breathing resistance
- Loose-fitting PAPR does NOT require fit testing and can be used with facial hair
- Tight-fitting PAPR requires fit testing
Half & Full Facepiece Respirators

Elastomeric Half Facepiece Respirator

• Reusable facepiece and replaceable canisters, cartridges, or filters
• Must use appropriate cartridge, canister or filter
• Fit testing required

Elastomeric Full Facepiece Respirator

• Reusable facepiece and replaceable canisters, cartridges, or filters
• Must use appropriate cartridge, canister or filter
• Provides eye protection
• More effective face seal than elastomeric half-facepiece respirators
• Fit testing required
Key Points About PPE

- Put on before potential incident
- Use carefully – don’t spread contamination, e.g. touching surfaces with contaminated gloves
- Remove and discard carefully; contaminated PPE is a source of exposure to you
- Immediately wash your hands and/or body parts as applicable to your situation
How to Safely Put on, Use, and Remove PPE
Putting on Surgical Mask or Cloth Face Covering Correctly

• Wash your hands before putting on your surgical mask or cloth face covering
• Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
• Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
• Make sure you can breathe easily
ACTIONS TO AVOID

Don’ts

- Do not wear a loose mask
- Do not touch the front of the mask
- Do not remove the mask to talk to someone or do other things that would require touching the mask
- Do not leave your used mask within the reach of others
- Do not re-use the mask

- Do not use a ripped or damp mask
- Do not wear the mask only over mouth or nose

who.int/epi-win

World Health Organization
Taking Off Surgical Mask or Cloth Face Covering Correctly

- Untie the strings behind your head or stretch the ear loops
- Handle only by the ear loops or ties
- Fold outside corners together
- Place washable cloth face covering in the washing machine
- Place disposable surgical mask in waste container
- Be careful not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth when removing
- Wash hands immediately after removing
How to Store Surgical Mask or Cloth Face Covering for Reuse

• Do not place your cloth face covering in your pocket for later use
• Carefully fold the cloth face covering so the contaminated outside is folded inward and against itself
• Place it in a paper bag and wash your hands
Reusing Surgical Face Mask or Cloth Face Covering

When putting surgical mask or cloth facial covering back on:

• Perform hand hygiene before putting surgical mask or cloth facial covering back on
• Be sure to grasp the surgical mask or cloth facial covering by the ear loops or strings
• Perform hand hygiene after putting surgical mask or cloth facial covering on
How to Wash Cloth Face Covering

Washing machine

- You can include your cloth face covering with your regular laundry
- Use regular laundry detergent and the warmest appropriate water setting for the cloth used to make the face covering

Washing by hand

- Prepare a bleach solution by mixing:
  - 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) household bleach per gallon of room temperature water or
  - 4 teaspoons household bleach per quart of room temperature water
- Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection. Some bleach products, such as those designed for safe use on colored clothing, may not be suitable for disinfection
- Ensure the bleach product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser
- Soak the face covering in the bleach solution for 5 minutes
- Rinse thoroughly with cool or room temperature water

Completely Dry cloth face covering after washing.

- Use dryer on highest setting
- Air dry. If possible, place in direct sunlight
Putting on Eye Protection and Face Shield

Eye Protection
• Position goggles or glasses over eyes and secure to your head using earpieces or headband

Face Shield
• Position face shield over face and secure on brow with headband
• Adjust to fit comfortably
Removing Eye Protection or Face Shield

- Grasp ear or head pieces with ungloved hands
- Lift away from face
- Place on clean surface for cleaning and disinfecting or dispose in appropriate receptacle
How to Clean Face Shield

Using Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and manufacturer approved cleaning agent:

- Wipe front and back of face shield
- Wipe elastic band
- Wipe foam band
- Place face shield on clean surface to dry
- Once face shield is dry store in clean container
Gloves:
- Offer limited/no protection when heavily soiled, torn or have holes
- Avoid “touch contamination”
- Don't touch your face or adjust PPE with contaminated gloves
- Don’t touch other surfaces except, as necessary

Change Gloves:
- During use if torn and when heavily soiled
- When contamination event is over, don't begin another task until you have decontaminated
- Discard gloves in appropriate receptacle
- Never re-use disposable gloves even if you think that they are clean
Removing Gloves

Step 1:
• Grasp outside edge near wrist
• Peel away from hand, turning glove inside-out
• Hold in opposite gloved hand

Step 2:
• Slide ungloved finger under the wrist of the remaining glove
• Peel off from inside, creating a bag for both gloves

Step 3:
• Discard gloves
Lab Coat or Other Washable Covering

- Used to protect clothing
- Should be removed if becomes soiled
- Should be cleaned daily per manufacturer’s directions
How to Wash Lab Coat or Other Washable Clothing

• You can include your lab coat/scrub jacket with your regular laundry
• Use regular laundry detergent and the warmest appropriate water setting for the cloth used to make the coat
• Dry completely after washing
• Use dryer on highest setting
HAND HYGIENE

Perform hand hygiene immediately after removing PPE

If hands become visibly contaminated during PPE removal, wash hands before continuing to remove PPE

Wash hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
PPE SAFETY REMINDERS

Keep
- Keep gloved hands away from your face

Avoid
- Avoid touching or adjusting other PPE

Remove
- Remove gloves if they become torn; perform hand washing before putting on new gloves

Limit
- Limit surfaces and items touched
How to Safely Put On Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Click HERE to open link
https://youtu.be/H4jQUBAlBrI
VIDEO DEMONSTRATION
PPE REMOVAL

Click HERE to open link
https://youtu.be/PQxOc13DxvQ
CDC Resources


CDC Guidance for Child Care Programs that Remain Open. Retrieved 7/31/20

CDC School and Childcare Programs. Retrieved: 7/3/20

References


References


This training is based upon *Personal Protective Equipment Awareness Trailing for Schools PowerPoint* from the [Department of Safety and Professional Services](#).
For more information contact:

- DSPSSBHealthandSafetyTech@wi.gov
- Your District Occupational Safety and Health Inspector
- Public Sector District Safety Inspectors
- Your School safety coordinator
School Nurse/Health Services Consultant
Louise Wilson, MS, BSN, RN, NCSN
louise.wilson@dpi.wi.gov