



**NEVADA
HEALTH
RESPONSE**

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Meghin Delaney

Communications Director

CONTACT: pressroom@nvhealthresponse.nv.gov

Gov. Sisolak signs Emergency Directive 048 related to K-12 schools in Nevada; State issues additional guidance

CARSON CITY, NV — Today, Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak signed [Emergency Directive 048](#) related to face coverings and other mitigation strategies for K-12 county school district, charter school and private school settings within Nevada. Additionally, Nevada Health Response [released accompanying guidance](#) for the directive that summarizes requirements and recommendations for masking and testing within K-12 school settings.

As stated by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention last week](#), it is recommended that all teachers, staff, students and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status, wear masks inside school buildings to prevent transmission of the virus.

As Variants of Concern, including the Delta variant, have become the most predominant strains of the virus and most school-aged children are not yet able to be vaccinated, additional mitigation measures are needed to protect students, staff and school visitors.

The Emergency Directive and guidance were developed in partnership with the Nevada Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services and local school leaders across the State.

In all counties, all school staff must wear face coverings while inside school buildings, regardless of vaccination status. Additionally, all kindergarten

through 12th grade students and school staff throughout Nevada must wear face coverings while on school buses, as per the CDC order. CDC's order applies to all public transportation conveyances, including school buses. Regardless of the mask policy at a school, passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school buses.

In counties with a population of 100,000 or greater, all kindergarten through 12th grade students in county school district, charter school and private school settings (regardless of whether they would be exempt from the face covering requirement based on their age) MUST wear face coverings while inside school buildings regardless of vaccination status unless granted an exemption. Exemptions for masking are outlined in Directive 048 and accompanying guidance. This applies to Clark County and Washoe County.

In counties with a population less than 100,000, each county school district, charter school, and private school shall adopt a face covering policy that addresses whether, or under what circumstances, face coverings will be required for students while in school buildings or on school campuses. Any policy must not conflict with the provisions of the Emergency Directive or with any face covering requirements imposed by county governments or local health authorities. This applies to the remaining 15 counties.

Irrespective of any policy adopted by a county school district, charter school, or private school, if a school-wide outbreak of COVID-19 is identified by the applicable local health authority in any school, a universal face covering policy SHALL be implemented immediately for ALL students in the school building where the outbreak occurred until the local health authority determines that the outbreak is closed.

Finally, weekly regular testing will be required in county school districts, charter schools and private schools for all students, staff and volunteers who are not fully vaccinated and who are involved in travelling to other schools or venues outside of the county for athletics and activities.

More details on requirements and recommendations for K-12 school settings can be found in the guidance online and [in additional guidance developed by the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services.](#)

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