

July 24, 2020

EVW School Community and Families,

On Wednesday, Governor Walz issued Emergency Executive Order 20-81 requiring Minnesotans to wear a face covering to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Beginning on Friday, July 24 at 11:59 p.m., Minnesotans must wear a face covering in indoor businesses and indoor public settings as described in the order. Workers must also wear face coverings outdoors when it is not possible to maintain social distancing. Specific guidance is available at the Stay Safe Minnesota website (<http://staysafe.mn.gov>).

These guidelines include all public and nonpublic PreK-12 Schools.

The following individuals are exempt from the face covering requirements:

- Individuals with a medical condition or disability that makes it unreasonable for the individual to maintain a face covering
- Pre-kindergarten students age 5 years and younger
- Individuals at their workplace when wearing a face covering would create a job hazard

Mandatory face coverings may temporarily be removed when participating in indoor physical activity where the level of exertion makes wearing a face covering difficult or when an individual is alone in an office or room and social distancing is maintained.

Upon entering Eden Valley-Watkins Schools or waiting to enter, all individuals above the age of five will be expected to wear a face covering. We are asking you to provide your own cloth face covering at this time. We are working with Meeker County and various vendors to secure a supply of masks for those unable to do so.

For school purposes, this will include (and is not limited to):

- Community Education programming
- Eagle Kids
- Summer School
- Activities, Athletics and Camps
- Reporting to Work
- Meetings

Thank you for cooperation with this new Emergency Executive Order. We are hopeful these safety procedures will continue to allow us to keep our schools open this summer and transition to a normal start for the 2020-21 school year.

Also, schools were told today that the MN Department of Education/Governor will be making the 2020-21 "Reopening" school announcement on Thursday, July 30. With this direction, we intend to communicate our plans to you by August 10.

Thank you for the cooperation during these uncertain times.