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**[admin\_super] COVID updates**

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**From :** Dawn Strong <strong\_d@4j.lane.edu>

Wed, Mar 15, 2023 10:30 AM

**Sender :** admin\_super <admin\_super-bounces@4j.lane.edu> 1 attachment**Subject :** [admin\_super] COVID updates**To :** admin super <admin\_super@4j.lane.edu>

Good morning administrators and supervisors,

Please note two specific changes in 4j COVID practices. These changes do not require action on your part, but are for your information.

#### Masking in Healthcare Settings - Effective 4/3/23

- Beginning [April 3](#) Oregon is lifting the mask requirement in health care settings. OHA is rescinding (OAR) [333-019-1011](#) which is the portion of the statute that addresses masking requirements in healthcare settings and has been in effect since [August 2021](#). This change will directly impact our school health rooms and school-based health centers as we will no longer require masks when entering these areas, nor will our employees who work in these areas be required to mask. Joy Maxwell will be meeting with district nurses on [Wednesday, March 16](#) to discuss the change, which becomes effective on April 3 - the day we return from Spring Break. This change aligns with decisions in other states, including Washington.

#### Change in Accommodations for Employees with Religious Exceptions - Effective immediately

- This week will be the last week that we will require weekly testing or masking as an accommodation for employees who have a religious exception on file with the district. While (OAR) [333-019-1030](#) requires teachers and school staff to be vaccinated or have an approved religious or medical exception on file, it is up to individual districts to determine what the accommodation(s) are for those with exceptions. District employees with approved exceptions have been required to mask or participate in weekly district testing, but will no longer be required to do so. We have updated our accommodations to align more closely with Bethel and Springfield (and other districts across the state), neither of which require masking or weekly testing. Instead, employees will be required to screen for symptoms, stay home when sick and report to their supervisor if they test positive; this will apply to student workers as well. All new employees who are unvaccinated must still apply for an exception, and we must document and retain their request and our approval on file. The new accommodations for employees with approved exceptions are as follows:

1. Screen for symptoms on a daily basis
  - a. If you are actively sick with fever (above 100.1 degrees Fahrenheit), vomit, or diarrhea, then you must not report to work
  - b. Inform your supervisor if you test positive for COVID-19 and follow district requirements for testing positive
2. Practice regular hand hygiene (wash hands or use hand sanitizer)
3. It is suggested, but not required, that you wear a mask in large group settings
4. Follow any additional current or future protocols or procedures as required by Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Department of Education, Lane County Public Health or Eugene School District 4J.

If you have questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

Dawn

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