



# Southwest Snapshot

February 27 2021

## Are you ready to mask up at Southwest?

If you selected the “In Person” option, please begin scheduling time for your child to practice wearing a mask during the day and building stamina before returning to the building. Once we return, students will be required to wear a mask throughout the day with the exception of eating, drinking, and scheduled mask breaks.

- Children should be taught how to wear the mask properly, including not touching the front of the mask and not pulling it under the chin or into their mouth.
  - o Practice with your child putting on and taking off masks without touching the cloth.
  - o Explain the importance of wearing a mask and how it protects other people from getting sick. Check out this video about masks and schools featuring Wool E. Bull from the Durham Bulls: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LOQaYd1yTrj5errOvsm5DeAl3c6h0cTd/view?usp=sharing>.
- We recommend having multiple masks, so you can wash them daily and have back-ups ready. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) does NOT include face gaiters and bandanas as effective face coverings to stop the spread of COVID-19 and therefore does not meet the face-covering requirement. Masks should adhere to the following guidelines:
  - o Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
  - o Completely cover the nose and mouth
  - o Are secured with ties or ear loops
  - o Include multiple layers of fabric
  - o Allow for breathing without restriction
  - o Can be washed and machine dried without damage or change to shape
- Last but not least ... Label your child’s masks clearly in a permanent marker, so they are not confused with those of other children. We always recommend this for any personal items, but it will be especially important for personal masks this year.

Thank you in advance for helping us make sure students are ready to comply with the safety expectations for “In-Person” learning at Southwest Elementary.

There are still a lot of unknowns and things might change again after the Board Meeting tomorrow. Regardless, Mr. Rotosky is hosting a town hall to discuss what the reopening plan at Southwest will look like and answer questions from the community. You can submit questions ahead of time via the registration form or feel free to email the PTA Board ([pta.swedurhamnc@gmail.com](mailto:pta.swedurhamnc@gmail.com)) or Mr. Rotosky ([Nicholas\\_Rotosky-III@dpsnc.net](mailto:Nicholas_Rotosky-III@dpsnc.net)).

Register here: <http://bit.ly/swetownhall>