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Reference: TCHD DCSD Mask Mandate

To our Outdoor Ed. Families,

We understand that this is an uncomfortable issue for some families.

Outdoor ed is a little unique, so I'd like to fully explain why, as a program, we will not deviate from the new requirements.

At any given school site, the students and staff are their own bubble, essentially seeing the same people day in and day out. At Stone Canyon, we have two different schools coming into our bubble every week. This greatly increases the chances for our staff to be exposed and/or get sick. Because our staff live together on-site, an infection would close our program down and not allow other schools to attend until all staff were healthy again.

We have done our best to maximize outdoor time to the greatest extent possible. Masks will only be required during the following activities:

- On the bus to and from camp per Federal requirements on public transportation
- In Base Camp for hand-washing before meals
(All meals are currently served outside under awnings and umbrellas)
- Students will wear masks for the occasional indoor portion of a class
- In the evening/morning, students will keep masks on in cabins
(**Excluding when individuals are brushing teeth, showering, drinking water, & sleeping**)
- Additionally, we will spread students out in bunk rooms where possible, and have them sleep in a head to toe orientation
- Cabin windows will stay open for increased ventilation

This focus on outdoor programming minimizes the time that students must be in their masks; likely no more than 3 hours cumulatively/day, depending on the classes that a school chooses for their students.

In the case that a student has a medical waiver on file with their school, we will honor that exception.

Stone Canyon is not a compulsory part of a student's day. If a family wishes to not have their child wear a mask, we would ask that they not participate in OE this year.

Thank you,

Jolee Jones
Director