



Dateline CTA

September 2020
Elul 5780

Columbus
Torah Academy

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Jewish Federation. We are an Equal
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STARTING THE NEW YEAR RIGHT

We are happy to be together!

The start of the new school year brings shiny new shoes, new uniforms, unsharpened pencils, new teachers and friends, and a lot of new experiences.

We also start the new school year getting ready for another new year as we welcome Rosh Hashanah!

While this year brings new protocols and more transitions as we come back into the building after a long spring and summer, we are no less excited to learn and grow in our Jewish faith and traditions.

Our monthly CTA Dateline is just the start of what this year will bring and how warmly and professionally our teachers engage our students.

Wishing each of you a happy and healthy new year full of sweet moments with your families.

As we prepare for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur during the current month of Elul, we blow the shofar (almost) every day of the month. Rabbi Savage has been coming around the building for shofar-blowing after morning services. Loved catching the 1st graders during recess as they stopped in their tracks with respect to hear the shofar being blown.

Enjoy the sounds at <https://youtu.be/Alh59ZN5cck>



MAZAL TOV TO:

Elana and Joel Katz (former teacher) on a birth of a daughter

Michalle Goldish (8th grade class of 2010) on her marriage to Avry ben Dov of Scranton, Pa. and to parents Dr. Matt Goldish and Betty Goldish

Julie Chase (Class of 2017) on her engagement to Yari Garner of Houston, Texas and to parents Drs. Dan and Leslie Chase

Rabbi David and Shira Claman on the birth of a daughter

Sarah and Aharon Weinstein and family on the birth of a baby boy

Sarah (Nutis) Brody (Class of 2013) on the birth of a son and to grandparents Ira and Laura Nutis

Dr. Hannah Polster (Class of 2011) on her graduation from Wright State University and the start of her residency at Lenox Hill Hospital and to parents Jeff and Lori Polster

Alex Shats (Class of 2001) on his engagement to Annie Shmookler and to mother Svetlana Shats

Max Herszage (Class of 2013) on his marriage to Gabi Silbiger of West Orange, New Jersey and to parents Dotan and Shari Herszage and grandmother Cheryl Miller

David Wolfson (Class of 2015) on his marriage to Sarah Zilberman of Oceanside, NY and to parents, Chaim and Silvia Wolfson

Noah Hazan (Class of 2014) to Sarah Schwartz of Edison, NJ and to parents Arie and Shana Hazan

Rabbi Reuven and Sherri Greenberg (former faculty members) on the marriage of their daughter Basya to Shimshy Levovitz of Brooklyn, New York

Susie (Chana Tzirel) Wilhelm (Class of 2015) on her marriage to Yosef Warren of Israel and to mother Esther Wilhelm

Ellie Chase (Class of 2014) on her marriage to Justin Hod of Teaneck, NJ and to parents Drs. Dan and Leslie Chase

Rabbi Areyah and Esther Kaltmann on the marriage of their son Mendy to Devora Lea Serraf

Joel and Stacey Greff on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Josh

Marc Romanoff (8th grade class of 1986) on the marriage of his son David Leib to Noey Malkin and to grandparents Sonny and Ellen Romanoff

Perle BenMoshe and Miriam Schulman and families on the marriage of their brother Tzvi Yosef Jacobs of Miami, Florida to Michelle Ben Reuven

Ben Epstein (Class of 2007) on his engagement to Eva Dubinsky of Giv'at Shmuel, Israel and to parents Dr Avrom and Marcia Epstein

Michelle (Vinar) Schlanger (8th grade class of 1986) on the engagement of her son Rabbi Kevin Schlanger to Tsippy Kilstein and to grandparents Marvin and Barbara Vinar

Judah (Yehuda) Kay (Class of 2001) on the birth of a son and to grandparents Dr. Bruce and Nancy Kay and to great grandmother Mrs. Esther Schwartz

Dr. Avi and Karen Mikalov and Natanielle (Mikalov) Cooper (Class of 2007) and families on the engagement of son and brother, Jacob Mikalov to Julie Ecker, daughter of Debbie and Dr. Bob Ecker of Columbus, Ohio

Bracha (Hammer) Garfinkel (8th grade class of 2006) on the birth of a son and to grandparents Rabbi and Mrs. Shalom Hammer

Kathe Turiel (8th grade class of 1968) on the birth of a granddaughter

Jeremiah Pollack (8th grade class of 2001) on his marriage to Ida Celiku and to parents Paul and Kathy Pollack

Kaley Rosenthal on her marriage to Yoni Mizrachi and to parents Rick Rosenthal and Susan Rosenthal and Judy and Moshe Mizrachi

Lindsey (Schwartz) Glazer (Class of 2000) on the birth of a daughter and to grandparents David and Cathy Schwartz

Emily Supowit (8th grade class of 2006) on her engagement to Ari Frum and to parents Dr. Ken and Nancy Supowit

Yedidah Schramm (Class of 2004) on the birth of a daughter and to grandparents Dr. Marc and Sharon Schramm

CONDOLENCES TO:

Sarah Frank, Tal Frank (8th grade class of 1986), Alon Frank (8th grade class of 1988), Daniel Frank (8th grade class of 1988) and Sharon (Frank) Bramey (8th grade class of 1988) on the loss of sister and aunt Tziporah Langer

Tatyana Gorelik, Leo (Lena Feldman) Gorelik on the loss of mother and grandmother Genya Melomed

Alan and Sara Shatz, Lisa and Harvey Sukienik, Tonia (Shatz) Levison (Class of 2002), Aaron Shatz (Class of 2007), Gary Sukienik (Class of 2012), Zachary Sukienik (Class of 2015) and Talia Sukienik on the loss of mother and grandmother Ettagail Shatz

Michael Schiff (Past Board President), Scott Schiff and families on the loss of father and grandfather, Robert Schiff

Steve Schottenstein (Past Board President), Robert Schottenstein (Past Board President) and families on the loss of mother Frances "Frankie" Schottenstein

THANK YOU

To the PTO for bringing bagged breakfasts to Faculty and Staff to show appreciation for all of their effort for the start of the school year.



REOPENING FOR OUR STUDENTS

After 164 days out of the building, CTA reopening with a staggered start on Monday, August 24. Half of the student body attended on Monday and Tuesday and the other half on Wednesday and Thursday, giving teachers the opportunity to teach students new protocols and make the transition back to school easier.

Students are divided into pods to mitigate risk for Covid-19 and precautions as indicated by the CDC and our Medical Advisory Committee have been implemented throughout the building.

Our Reopening Road Map introduced the school community to our expectations with the priorities of Learning, Health and Safety, and Community Responsibility.

New purchases of Personal Protective Equipment, personal devices for all students, classroom Zoom stations for e-Learners, and plexiglass dividers are some of the new equipment to comply with social distancing for everyone and ensure that student's educational needs are met.

To view the Reopening Road Map, go to <https://www.torahacademy.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Reopening-2020-2021-plan-UPDATED-8.12.20.pdf>.

A short-animated video reminds the school community of what Health and Safety protocols are in place each day. See the video at <https://youtu.be/toSLjfaZLEs>

CREATING VIRTUAL BOARDS IN HEBREW

Our Hebrew teachers spent many hours during the summer for professional development about foreign language instruction and new technology tools for teaching, which they were eager to start using. Teachers and students were very happy to see each other again after months of isolation and delved into Hebrew activities. Here are glimpses of the first week of school in Hebrew.

שלום, שמי אליעזר, והעונה שאני הכי אוהב הוא קיץ. בקיץ יש חופש גדול, ואין בית ספר לשני חדשים וחצי. בקיץ אני אוהב לשחות בבריכה. אני גם אוהב לרכב בעופניים. כדי להרוויח כסף, כיסחתי מדשאות ועשיתי עבודה קשה בגן.


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E-Z LAWN

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♥ 1

In Morah Ronit and Morah Chen-Li's **High School Hebrew Classes**, we began the year very excited to see each other. Our first *Bishvil Halvrit* Unit is about the Four Seasons. We will focus on descriptions of the seasons, reasons for our preferences to a particular season, and we will learn about the characteristics of every season in Israel.

As an opening activity for the year, each student had to write their name, the season they prefer, share a picture, and the reason for their preference. We used **Padlet**, a new virtual board tool, as our sharing format. Students described in detail their love of different seasons, and the activities they like. They wrote about Summer, pools, and cutting grass; Fall for the beautiful leaves, moderate weather, and a birthday; Winter, for playing basketball, snow, Hanukkah, and drinking hot chocolate; or Spring with beautiful flowers and great weather.

We are so proud to share our students' work please click on these links to see their beautiful displays:

[Link to 9/10 Hebrew Class Season Padlet](#)

[Link to 11/12 Hebrew Class Season Padlet](#)

Morah Eva's **Hebrew High School Class**, also used the Padlet tool to answer the question in class *"Why is it important for me to learn/speak Hebrew?"*. Their answers included: because it is the language of Judaism and Torah, because I

want to go to Israel and speak, because my family speaks at a high level of Hebrew and I want to understand.

You can see their posts and pictures in this link:

[Link to 11/12 Class Important to Speak Hebrew Padlet](#)

HELMETS OFF TO THE BICYCLE BRIGADE



CTA High School students were able to put their chessed muscle to help this summer by partnering with Jewish Family Services and the CTA Garden to deliver fresh produce.

Due to increased need, Jewish Family Service's had more than doubled the number of weekly deliveries of meals to clients in the area and were in need of help. High School students are always looking for ways to fulfill their community service hours in meaningful ways were able to fill the need. Over the ten weeks of summer the CTA Bicycle Brigade delivered packages of fresh produce (from JFS as well as the CTA garden) to over 14 households in the Bexley, Berwick and Eastmoor areas.

The Brigade included students who pedaled in partnership, one person pulling a trailer with produce and the other trying their best to navigate the local streets. Pairs of students met up at Jewish Family Service on College Avenue, were given a list of names and addresses of local Holocaust survivors or elderly and shopping bags to deliver. As they arrived at their "delivery site" one person would call to let the recipient know they were about to make a delivery. Keeping up with rules of social distancing, masked students would knock on the door, leave the package on a porch and wait for it to be picked up by the recipient. Through rain, heat or fatigue, the Brigade never failed to make their deliveries.

Delivery packages included fresh produce harvested from the CTA Garden. One week, all 80 deliveries included either a bag of Sage, Basil, Kale or Spinach. Early in the season some 40 gallon bags were delivered of Kale and Spinach. Later in the season deliveries included cucumbers, tomatoes, herbs and green beans from the garden.

Since school reopened on August 24, the weekly deliveries began by the Brigade has continued, but led by alumni and other CTA school community members.

If you are interested in helping with a weekly route (by car, Tuesdays 2 - 3:30pm) or with the fall harvesting at the CTA garden, please contact Morah Dina dwolff@torahacademy.org



NEW SOUND ABSORPTION PANELS IN LOWER SCHOOL GYM

Over the time that we were not in the building, new noise reduction panels were installed in the Lower School gym to absorb sound and make the room a more user-friendly space. Funding in part came from the Moritz Mayer Fund at the Columbus Jewish Foundation and also from a private donor.

LIGHTING FIXTURES CONVERTED TO LED

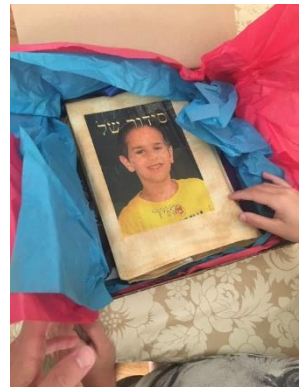
Lighting in the Upper School hallways on both floors and in both gymnasiums have been replaced with LED fixtures. This saves us 75% in energy use, cuts our maintenance costs, and reduces our carbon footprint.

PHOTOS AROUND CAMPUS

Kindergarten Car Parade and Porch Visit: While the incoming kindergarten class didn't have the regular opportunities to meet the teacher in advance of school starting, the kindergarten teaching team went to each student's home for a porch visit to bring a small gift and some big smiles. This really helped with the transition for our youngest learners.

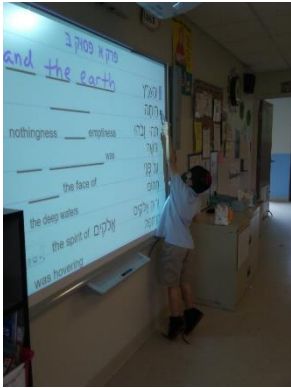


Chag HaSiddur: Spring is the typical season for when the 1st graders get their siddur, however with this spring setting some of activities back, our incoming **SECOND GRADERS** started the year with special Chag HaSiddur Box deliveries.



1st grade playdough: What better way to get some hands-on learning and get to know each other and make new 1st grade friend than by getting some magical playdough they could color just the way they wanted.





2nd grade Chumash: Using a Smartboard interactive program, the 2nd graders are learning the parts of the Chumash as they begin to learn in the original text.

3rd grade Science: Situated in their dedicated outdoor learning space, the 3rd graders were able to sit socially distanced and read about natural resources in their Science Fusion book. All grade levels have dedicated outdoor learning space to provide extra opportunities for mask breaks.

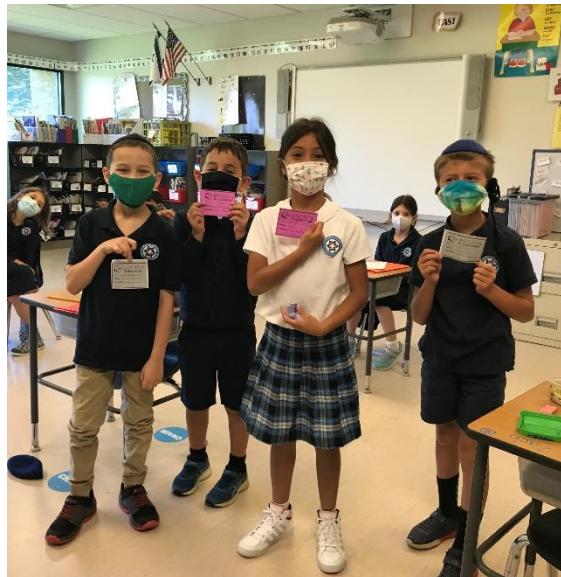
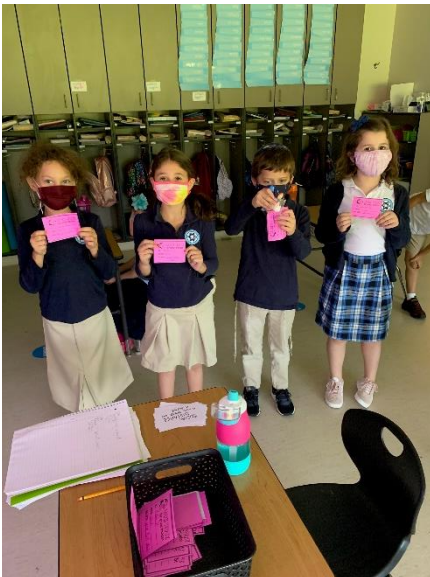


4th grade Superheros – As the students work on their writing skills, they had their first Superheroes Writing Workshop where they identified and described their own powers (for example: kindness, good at sports, good at reading, good at math, etc.) and selected 2 superhuman powers to add to our superhero character. Next session - we will start writing our superhero origin stories.

5th grade Get ready for Rosh Hashanah: Students started Rosh Hashana learning with a focus on “Dan l’kaf zechut” - judging favorably. The class discussed how it is even more important this year since we can easily misunderstand the words or facial expressions of others with masks on. The class read stories from the book “The Other Side of the Story” to exercise our ability to judge favorably.



6th grade visits the Garden: Our large campus offers so many areas to explore during recess. 6th graders were able to head out to the garden with Mrs. Miller. The garden continues to harvest as we head into Fall.



Lion Note Fun: Lower School’s focus on the middot of Respect, Honesty and Friendship continue this year. Classes can earn middot money and students receive Lion Notes for their outstanding display of the middot. Each Friday, Lion Note raffle winners are pulled and students can pick prizes.

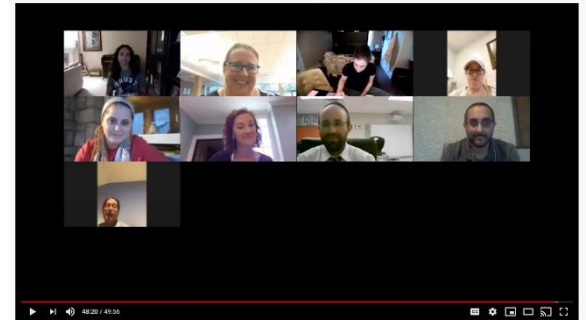


Mrs. Jones 10th Grade Geometry class headed outside for a bridge crossing activity. With a little creativity and physical activity, they crossed the “bridge” showing that the problem solving in math is acutely related to becoming a problem solver as a strategy for life.



Mrs. Claman’s High School Chumash class is focused on their chavruta learning and are certain to be LOUD and clear in our class (as students learn 6 feet apart!)

Meet the Teacher: Held virtually instead of live, Lower School parents had the opportunity to Zoom in to grade level programs to hear about



classroom expectations and goals. While it wasn’t the same as being able to sit in their child’s seat or leave a note in a desk, the teachers were prepared to help the parents learn more about their child’s classroom and open up the lines of communication in the school-parent partnership of educating our students. Meet the Teacher links for Lower School can be found at <https://www.torahacademy.org/lowerschoolmeettheteacher/> Meet the Teacher links for Upper School can be found at <https://www.torahacademy.org/upperschoolmeettheteacher/>



Music: Morah Cheri is “on the road” with her wagon and going into classrooms for music. While singing isn’t the primary activity in music class, there are many other fun ways to learn about and enjoy music. Love seeing these ribbons flying as the students dance to the music.



8th grade - Selfie Stick Time!

TZEDAKAH BOX TURN IN



If you have a CTA Tzedakah Box, don't forget to fill it and empty it often. **THE NEXT SCHEDULED DROP OFF DATE IS MONDAY, October 5, 2020.** You can choose to send in a check with the amount of the contents or put the change and cash into an envelope or baggie and send in with your child. Amounts are counted towards your Give and Get and are a great addition to the donations the school receives. If you need a new or more Tzedakah boxes, contact Shari.

SHABBAT & FIRST NIGHT HOLIDAY CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES FOR SEPTEMBER and EARLY OCTOBER

September 4: 7:37 pm
September 11: 7:25 pm
September 18: 7:14 pm
September 25: 7:02 pm

September 27: 6:59 pm
October 2: 6:51 pm
October 9: 6:40 pm

CTA LUNCH MENU & SCHOOL EVENTS

(<http://www.torahacademy.org/parent-portal/calendar/>)

Check this for after-school activities, sports events and more.

School Links for Parents (<http://www.torahacademy.org/parent-page/>)

September 7: No School, Labor Day
September 9: 12th Grade College Night, 7pm (Virtual)
September 14: School Pictures
September 18: No School, Erev Rosh Hashanah
September 19-20: Rosh Hashanah
September 27: SAT Administration
September 28: No School, Yom Kippur

Keep Up with CTA Via Social Media

Columbus Torah Academy is on INSTAGRAM! Follow us at: **ColumbusTorahAcademy**
(<https://www.instagram.com/columbustorahacademy/>)

FOLLOW US ON



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Columbus Torah Academy is on Facebook. Like us at **Columbus Torah Academy** (<https://www.facebook.com/columbustorahacademy/>) and join our groups **Columbus Torah Academy PTO** (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/502100903515212/>) and (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/36055144239/>)



Columbus Torah Academy is on Twitter. Follow us at : **@ColumbusTorah** (<https://twitter.com/ColumbusTorah>) and **@NikkiMillerCTA** (<https://twitter.com/NikkiMillerCTA>)

GIVE & GET

More info can be found at www.torahacademy.org/parent-portal/give-and-get/

Tribute Donation: Contact Lesa, Shari or submit donation on-line at www.torahacademy.org for all in honor, in memory or milestone tributes to family and friends.

Kroger Rewards Card: Go to www.kroger.com/communityrewards and register your rewards card. Kroger will donate up to 1% of your purchases from Kroger or Turkey Hill stores.

OFFICE MAX: Max Perks card number is: 207285005

Target RED Card: Go to <https://rcam.target.com/> to manage your red card and enroll your card in the Take Charge of Education program to choose CTA. Target will donate up to 1% of your REDcard purchases at Target stores in the U.S and at Target.com.

Amazon Smile: Go to www.smile.amazon.com and register to benefit CTA. When you make a purchase, CTA will receive 1% of that purchase as a donation to our school.

iGive: Register with iGive at www.igive.com and your Amazon purchases and online purchases at close to 1500 retailers will give a kickback to CTA. To date we have raised over \$1200.

Sponsor a Day of Learning: For the 4th year, CTA is offering opportunities to sponsor A Day of Learning in memory or honor of a loved one or to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, b'nai mitzvah or other life cycle event. A Day of Learning is a \$180 donation and dedications are listed in both the CTA Weekly Communicator and the monthly CTA Dateline. To choose your Day of Learning, contact Shari at sherszage@torahacademy.org



Sponsor
a day of learning

TZEDAKAH

It has been a time-honored Jewish tradition to give tzedakah in recognition of important events. Todah Rabah to the following for their donation (since 6/1/2020 through 8/31/2020):

To the Annual Fund

- Jackson Leonard in memory of Irv Baker
- Brian and Melissa Zox Feldman in memory of Jerome Wolf from the Melissa and Brian Feldman Family Philanthropic Fund of the Columbus Jewish Foundation
- Nutis Press for Teacher Appreciation Week Yard Signs
- Capital City Restoration LLC for new fencing in the CTA garden
- Yitzchak Gold in memory of Sonia G. Fesman
- Rabbi Ilan and Rebecca Schwartz in honor of the 2020 CTA High School graduates
- Dr. Bob and Patty Wolf & Family in honor of Norma Whitmyre with appreciation and gratitude for her years of service
- Jeffrey and Corrine Covell in honor of Shulie Drandoff's bat mitzvah
- Matthew Block, TTEE and Heather Fineman, TTEE of the Judith Weintaub Fund in honor of Gillian Herszage's graduation
- Rabbi Henschel & Chaya Morris in honor of Sharon Schramm
- Marty and Barbara Winn in memory of Frank Nutis
- Rabbi Pinchas and Elana Weinreich in honor of incoming 2nd grader, Yonatan and his parents
- Dr. Marc and Sharon Schramm in memory of Naomi Litchman
- Ron and Laurie Reitman in memory of Miriam bat Mordechai, z"l
- The Detwilers in memory of mother and wife, Ettagail Shatz, expressing their good memories
- Yoni, Allison, Avi and Zachary Zofan in honor of Bary and Roni Leeman for their generosity and kindness during "Camp Yaki"
- Naomi Myers to dedicate a day of learning on 9/2/20 for a refuah shelaima for Rabbi Drandoff
- Rabbi Avraham and Miriam Goldstein to dedicate a day of learning on 9/3/20 for a refuah shelaima for Rabbi Drandoff
- Victoria and Roman Ilin to dedicate a day of learning on 9/3/20 for a refuah shelaima for Rabbi Drandoff

To Sponsor A Day of Learning

For the month of June

- For Wednesday, June 10 is sponsored by Daryl and Beth Binsky and family in honor of the wonderful CTA faculty and staff.

COVID-19 UPDATES

Should I come to school today?

Do I have **ONE** or more of these four symptoms?

- Fever >100
- Cough
- Loss of sense of smell or taste
- Cold symptoms (sore throat, congestion, runny nose)

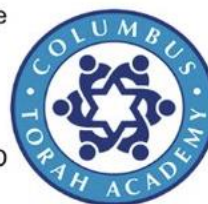
Do NOT come to school

Do I have **TWO** or more of these symptoms?

- Headache
- Body Aches
- Fatigue
- Gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting or diarrhea)

DO NOT come to school

- If unsure if child meets criteria to stay home, keep them home
- If symptoms resolve within 24 hours may come to school without a COVID test
- If a child is sent home from school they will be considered symptomatic and require a doctor's note or a negative COVID test to return



www.torahacademy.org

614-864-0299

DO choose masks that



Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric



Completely cover your nose and mouth



Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't have gaps

DO NOT choose masks that



Are made of fabric that makes it hard to breathe, for example, vinyl



Have exhalation valves or vents, which allow virus particles to escape



Are intended for healthcare workers, including N95 respirators or surgical masks

Caution: Gaiters & Face Shields



Evaluation is on-going but effectiveness is unknown at this time



Evaluation is on-going but effectiveness is unknown at this time

