

Looking Forward: Back to School 2021-2022

COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols

As we move into the upcoming school year it important to provide a transparent and consistent plan for addressing COVID protocols and response. Prevention is the key to keep our students and staff safe. Emphasize will be placed on good health hygiene and maybe most important staying home when sick.

- **Face Coverings No Longer Required**
 - Face coverings will no longer be required for any staff member; however, masks may be worn by those who feel more comfortable doing so.
 - Face coverings will not be required in any educational space or activity including church, athletics, etc.
 - Masks are supported if individuals choose or need to wear them and we will support this choice and work through each situation.

- **COVID Immunizations Not Mandatory**
 - The COVID immunization will not be required for staff or students.
 - If a staff member or student is immunocompromised and unable to receive the COVID vaccine, there will be a process for them to request an accommodation. For example, if a teacher is immunocompromised and unable to receive the vaccine, that teacher may have the option to ask their students to wear masks while in the classroom with them. This will enable the educator to continue to teach in person. These will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

- **Quarantines Discontinued**
 - Quarantines of healthy/non-symptomatic students and staff will be discontinued.
 - Should a student or staff member test positive for COVID, or are presumed positive, they will be asked to isolate for 10 days from symptom onset before returning to school. They will also need to be fever free for 24 hours and symptoms should be improving.

- **Physical Distancing No Longer Implemented**
 - Physical distancing will no longer be implemented.

- **Visitors in Schools Permitted**
 - In the 2021-2022 school year, visitors will be permitted in schools as they were pre-COVID. Visitors will need to sign in and out of the school using Raptor. Face coverings will not be required for visitors, however, they may wear one if they are more comfortable doing so. Visitors that are exhibiting any signs or symptoms of illness will be allowed in the school.

- **Field Trips Resume**
 - Field trips, including out-of-state trips, will resume in 2021-2022.
- **Athletics and Activities Resume as Normal**
 - Athletics and activities will resume normal processes in 2021-2022 in partnership with CSAL and governing bodies.
- **Hand Hygiene**
 - Schools and teachers will continue to encourage good hand hygiene, such as reminding students to wash hands after using the restroom, before meals, etc., and provide access to hand sanitizer stations.
- **Disinfection**
 - Touchpoints (i.e. doorknobs, light switches, etc.) will continue to be disinfected throughout all buildings on a daily basis.
 - Teachers and staff will continue to have access to disinfectant supplies, including disinfecting spray, to clean high-touch areas regularly if desired.
- **Ventilation**
 - The use of the air purifiers in the classrooms will continue.

In addition to the protocols listed above, schools will continue to encourage families to keep students at home when showing symptoms of illness.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and partnership as we have navigated the COVID pandemic. We are looking forward to providing our students and staff with much more normalcy in the coming school year.

Sincerely,