



Maria Regina School

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2021-22 COVID Policies and Procedures

MASKS

For the return to school, a universal indoor mask mandate is in effect from the Governor. All faculty, staff, administration, and students are required to wear a mask upon entering the school. Masks must be well-fitted at all times when inside, with the exception during lunchtime. This practice will reduce the number of quarantine cases that result in an interruption of learning time. Masks will NOT be required outside. No one is considered to be exposed when outdoors or when wearing masks appropriately and with the recommended social distance indoors.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

CDC guidance requires 6 feet of distance when students are unmasked and indoors for an extended period of time. The only situation where this occurs is in the lunchroom, where the required distance is met. With proper ventilation and proper mask wearing, last year's level of social distancing in classrooms is no longer required by the CDC.

VENTILATION

Air Purifiers were purchased for this school year and add an extra layer of protection. Additionally, windows and doors will remain open. The Air Purifiers purify the air every 60 minutes. Along with mask-wearing, this is critical to reducing the spread of the virus.

TRANSPORTATION

Bus windows will be open at all times for proper ventilation. We encourage buses to not allow students to share seats whenever possible. **Masks must be worn on buses at all times.** It is up to the students and the bus driver to enforce this policy.

HANDWASHING AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

Hand sanitizing is available throughout the school building, including the cafeteria. Everyone should continue to practice good handwashing, frequent sanitizing, and covering coughs and sneezes.

STAY HOME WHEN SICK AND GET TESTED

Stay home if you are sick. Get tested if you have symptoms. This is essential in keeping COVID-19 infections out of our school and will prevent spread to others.

CONTACT TRACING

The administration will notify teachers, staff, and families of students if they are close contacts as soon as possible. Unlike last year, when the entire school community was alerted when a positive COVID test was reported, only the grade level or close contacts will be notified. The State Dashboard will be updated to reflect positive reports, as they are given to us.

Proper mask wearing will result in significantly reducing any likelihood of a mandated quarantine. Fully vaccinated individuals are not subject to an extended quarantine.

There is no virtual learning offered this year to families as a choice--only in-person learning. If and when a situation arises that involves quarantining a large group, this policy will be revisited.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

Our cleaning protocols are very efficient at removing potential germs on surfaces. Any space where someone has tested positive for COVID-19 will be cleaned AND disinfected. Entire classroom-sanitizing occurs every other day and additionally as needed.

VISITORS

Nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations will be limited.

SCREENING AND TESTING FOR EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS

Anyone working inside a school building: faculty, staff, administrators, and **volunteers**, etc. must either show proof of vaccination or submit to weekly testing. Records will be kept in the Nurse's Office.