
Covid-19 School Updates Fall 2023

Masks

Based on current county transmission rates, **masks are optional and not required on HCPA's campus for all staff and students**. We encourage you and your child to determine what makes the most sense for you and your family. Masks will continue to be available in classrooms and at school entrances. Adjustments to our masking expectations may be made throughout the school year, pending information on county COVID-19 transmission rates and internal cases.

Building and Classroom Safety

High standards of cleanliness continue to be of importance on HCPA's campus. Our custodial staff will continue wiping and disinfecting public spaces and high-touch surfaces across our building throughout the school day. All staff will have access to cleaning materials so that they can clean and disinfect spaces as needed. Each classroom will receive a PPE kit including gloves, face shields, extra masks, and disinfectant. Sanitation stations with gloves, masks, and hand sanitizer will continue to be placed on each floor and in high-traffic areas. Our air filtering system continues to operate on every heating/cooling system throughout the school. Portable air purification devices with hospital-grade HEPA filters will be placed in all high-traffic areas, including cafeterias.

Contact Tracing

Like other local school districts, HCPA will no longer conduct contact tracing following a positive COVID-19 case report. Recommendations for isolation or quarantine will focus on individuals with symptoms as well as positive cases and their household members only. Families will no longer be notified if someone in their student's class, bus, or other extracurricular activity has tested positive for COVID-19.

Sick Students

Students who become sick during the school day will be sent home. It is important that sick students are picked up as soon as possible to limit the risk to other students and staff.

Quarantine and Isolation

Staying home when sick with symptoms of COVID-19 is essential to keep infectious diseases, such as influenza and COVID-19, out of the school setting. HCPA will continue to follow the Minnesota Department of Health's recommendations for isolation and quarantine.

Similar to flu and other infectious or communicable diseases, isolation of individuals with COVID-19 will be recommended rather than required. Absences due to illness should still be reported to the school. Students should stay home if they are running a fever and/or too sick to participate in learning.

HCPA will continue to offer COVID-19 test kits while supplies last.