COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS
2021-22

1) **FACE MASKS:** All staff, students and visitors *must wear face masks while in the building as well as when on school property during drop off and pick up (i.e., on sidewalks around the building and in the courtyard area). Face masks can either be 2-3 layers of tightly woven fabric (please avoid knit masks) or a medical (i.e., KF-94 – highly recommended) or surgical type mask. Masks must cover the nose and mouth and fit snugly against the sides of the face. Masks should not have valves. Additionally, we ask that students not wear masks that are made to draw attention, as these can be distracting in a classroom setting.

   * The only exception to the mask requirement is if a student has a medical reason why he/she cannot safely wear a mask, in which case a mask exemption request may be submitted in writing by the student's doctor (signed and stamped on official letterhead). This request must also be approved by the Head of School.

   Please note that the most effective fabric masks are those which have three layers and, when held up to a light source, block all or most of the light.

2) **ENTERING AND EXITING THE BUILDING:**

   DROP OFF

   *Preschool students will enter the building accompanied by a parent/guardian in a staggered manner using the main 9th Street door, and will access the third floor via the main staircase. Parents/guardians will sign the student in at the table in the main room, where a volunteer will deliver the child to his/her classroom.

   *K- 4th grade students will line up along the handicapped access ramp and will be admitted into the building unaccompanied in a staggered manner using the main 9th Street door, and will use the main stairwell to access the appropriate floor.

   *Middle school students (5th-8th grade) will enter the building unaccompanied via the door off of the courtyard.

   PICK UP

   *Parents/Guardians of PreK and K students will be admitted through the main 9th Street door, in a staggered manner, and will utilize the back stairwell to pick up their Pre-K and K students.

   *Parents/Guardians of 1st – 4th graders will be admitted in a staggered manner through the main 9th Street door and will utilize the front stairwell to pick up their 1st-4th grade children. If a parent of a 3rd or 4th grader would like their child to be dismissed to walk out of the building unaccompanied this can be arranged with the teacher (this option is not available to children under the age of 3rd grade, including children with older siblings at CHLG).

All hallways are one way only. Parents/Guardians with children on both the 3rd and 2nd floors will follow the directional signage when moving through the two hallways.

Parents/Guardians will be expected to exit the building promptly after pick up and hold conversations with others either on the courtyard (masked) or away from the building. We will ask parents not to converse on the sidewalks around the building, as this can hamper movement of both neighbors and those in our school community.

*Middle School students will dismiss into the courtyard for pick-up by parents / guardians.

3) **HEPA FILTRATION:** Air purifiers with hospital grade HEPA filtration are in every bathroom, classroom and common space. Each classroom has two air purifying units. This is twice the coverage for the square footage, equaling an air change per hour rate of nine (with this rate all of the air in the room is running through the HEPA filter approximately every seven minutes).

4) **HAND WASHING:** Regular hand washing and/or use of hand sanitizer will be encouraged and expected (upon arrival, after using the restroom, before and after blowing nose, upon dismissal, etc.)

5) **DISTANCING OF STUDENTS:** Seating at desks and tables will be arranged such that there is a minimum of 3 feet of distance between students (head to head).

6) **LUNCHTIME:** Students will eat lunch outdoors as much as is reasonably feasible for as long as DC's COVID numbers are above the "moderate community spread" delineation. When lunch must be eaten indoors we will maximize the use of our indoor space in order to distance students as much as possible, including utilizing the Fellowship Hall, which is outfitted with six separate hospital grade HEPA air purifying units.

7) **ISOLATION OF STUDENTS WITH SYMPTOMS:** Students who develop symptoms during the school day will be isolated to an area on the first floor while awaiting parent/guardian pick up.

8) **DISINFECTION OF HIGH TOUCH SURFACES:** All disinfecting in the school building will be completed utilizing a COVID rated disinfectant. High touch areas will be cleaned and disinfected daily after students are dismissed. If a staff member or student is found to have a positive case of COVID-19 the classroom and bathroom used by the infected person as well as any high touch areas in common spaces (such as stairwells) will be disinfected electrostatically with a COVID rated disinfectant.

9) **SCREENING TESTING**: Screening testing for COVID-19 will be available free onsite at school once a week for unvaccinated students (this is optional and requires parental approval and a one-time registration, there is no fee involved). Screening testing is mandatory for any staff members or volunteers who are not vaccinated and who will be working/volunteering onsite within the upcoming week.

10) **WHEN STAFF/VOLUNTEERS MUST STAY HOME DUE TO COVID-19 SYMPTOMS:** All persons **18 and older** who are experiencing any of the symptoms listed below, that are new or unexplained, must stay home from school. Symptoms of COVID-19 may include: fever (over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit), chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.

11) **WHEN STUDENTS MUST STAY HOME DUE TO COVID-19 SYMPTOMS:**
All persons younger than 18 who are experiencing the following symptoms, that are new or unexplained, must stay home from school until they are symptom free for 24 hours:

Any ONE of these red flag symptoms:

- New or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Fever over 100.4 Fahrenheit

OR at least two of the following symptoms:

- Chills
- Muscle or Body Aches
- Headache
- Sore Throat
- Fatigue
- Nausea or Vomiting
- Runny Nose or Congestion
- Diarrhea

12) **IF A MEMBER OF A STAFF / VOLUNTEER/ STUDENT'S HOUSEHOLD HAS SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19:** Unvaccinated staff, volunteers and students should be tested at the same time as their symptomatic household member, even if they themselves do not have symptoms. If this testing is not done, the staff/volunteer/student may not attend school while the symptomatic household member's test result is pending. Vaccinated individuals need not test or stay home in such a case unless they also become symptomatic.

13) **REQUIRED REPORTING OF POSITIVE COVID-19 STATUS OF STAFF, VOLUNTEER, STUDENT, OR A STAFF, VOLUNTEER OR STUDENT'S HOUSEHOLD MEMBER:**

Staff, Volunteers and Parents/Guardians of Students are expected to self-report to the Head of School if any member of their household has received a positive result from a COVID-19 test. If the positive result is for a staff member, volunteer or a student this person must isolate at home for at least 10 days from the date of first symptoms (or the date of testing if asymptomatic) and show improvement of symptoms, including no fever for 24 hours, before returning to school. If the positive result is a family member of a staff/volunteer/student the following requirements must be followed:

- If the staff/volunteer/student who has been exposed is **vaccinated**, no isolation is required unless the staff/volunteer/student has symptoms. However, the staff/volunteer/student should get a COVID-19 test 3-5 days after the date they were exposed and, if the test is positive, should inform the Head of School and isolate as prescribed above.
- If the staff/volunteer/student who has been exposed is **not vaccinated**, he/she must quarantine immediately, be tested on day 5 or later of the quarantine, and await the test result. As long as the testing is completed no earlier than day 5 of the quarantine the staff/student may return to the classroom on day 8, assuming they have received a

negative COVID test. If no COVID-19 testing is done the staff/student must quarantine for at least 10 days.

14) **REQUIRED REPORTING OF NON-HOUSEHOLD EXPOSURE TO COVID-19:**
A Staff/Volunteer/Student is expected to self-report to the Head of School is he/she has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days.
*Close contact is defined as: *Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes over a 24-hour period, starting from 2 days before illness onset (or for asymptomatic infected people, 2 days prior to positive test collection) until the time the infected person is isolated.*
The following requirements must be followed for those who have been exposed:

- If the staff/volunteer/student who has been exposed is **vaccinated**, no isolation is required unless the staff/student has symptoms. However, the staff/volunteer/student must get a COVID-19 test 3-5 days after the date they were exposed and, if the test returns positive, must inform the Head of School and isolate as prescribed under #13 above.
- If the staff/volunteer/student who has been exposed is **not vaccinated**, he/she must immediately begin quarantining, be tested on day 5 or later of the quarantine, and await the test result. As long as the testing is completed no earlier than day 5 of the quarantine the staff/volunteer/student may return to the classroom on day 8, assuming they have received a negative COVID test. If no COVID-19 testing is done the staff/volunteer/student should quarantine for at least 10 days.

*Please note that DC DOH provides an exception to the close contact definition for school settings. The above definition excludes students who were within 3-6 feet of an infected fellow student where both students were engaged in consistent and correct use of well-fitting masks AND other layered prevention strategies were in place (such as universal mask wearing regardless of vaccination status, physical distancing and increased ventilation).

15) **REQUIREMENTS AFTER TRAVEL:** Parents must self-report to the Head of School if their unvaccinated or partially vaccinated child travels anywhere other than Maryland or Virginia. Staff Members or Volunteers who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated also must self-report regarding travel. In this situation the following requirements are in place:

- Get a COVID-19 test 3-5 days after returning home from the trip AND
- Self-quarantine for 7 days after returning home
  - Self-quarantine for 7 days even if your test returns negative
  - If your test is positive contact the Head of School and stay home and isolate as instructed in #13 above
  - If no test is done the unvaccinated individual must quarantine for 10 days after returning home.