

***Updated September 8, 2021*

The administrative team, teachers, and staff are diligently working to prepare for the upcoming school year. This preparation includes the evaluation of school safety protocols.

As was the case last year, we anticipate there will be fluidity to any safety plan communicated today. In advance, we ask for your understanding and support as we make adjustments to policies and procedures.

Vaccinations: We strongly encourage vaccinations for all students, faculty, and staff who are eligible. We ask those vaccinated to provide proof of vaccination to Sherita Bussey, school nurse, within the first days of returning to school. We will contact the families of anyone potentially exposed, but vaccination status will potentially keep individuals from quarantine depending on symptoms.

- **Masks:** Masks are optional for students, faculty, and staff. However, we strongly encourage those who are unvaccinated to wear masks.
- **Physical Distancing:** Our classrooms will maintain physical distancing protocols, but if this is not possible, plexiglass barriers will be used. In the cafeteria, physical distancing is impossible given our lunch schedule. However, students will be given a choice to eat outside or in a classroom, if preferred.
- **CA at Home:** We will not offer a *CA at Home* option this year. Students who are contact-traced or receive a positive test result will be required to remain home for a quarantine period up to ten days and will not be able to test before day five. Consistent with protocols for other illnesses, students/parents will communicate with teachers to obtain assignments.
- **Pro-Tech Cleaning:** We will continue to regularly disinfect our classrooms with Pro-Tech medical-grade solution.

Again, it is important to note, all our health policies and procedures are subject to change at any time. While we must continue to navigate and respond to the global pandemic, we are optimistic for a great year. We acknowledge this is a polarizing topic. We strongly encourage vaccines but support families making health-based decisions for themselves and their children. Inevitably, all families will not agree, so it is incredibly important for us to be respectful and considerate of others as we all do what we think is best.