

HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROTOCOLS: ENSURING THE SAFETY AND WELLNESS OF STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES

As Charlotte County Public Schools reopens, there will be a number of procedures in place to ensure the safety and welfare of students, employees and, ultimately, the entire community. The intent of these protocols is to ensure high quality instruction and decrease the spread of COVID-19, as well as address and support wellness for all stakeholders who enter a school bus, school building, or any district property.

SOCIAL DISTANCING AND PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

The district recognizes that there are differing opinions and guidance on the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), including masks/face coverings, by school children. In determining these protocols, the district sought input from students, parents, employees and community stakeholders. Following the recommendations of the Department of Health, and in an effort to employ all measures possible to prevent the spread of COVID-19,

Students will be allowed to carry hand sanitizer as long as the bottle meets CDC safety requirements and contains no more than 3 ounces of sanitizer. The bottle must be unaltered and in its original container.

Classroom setups will be arranged to maximize space and increase social distancing between students to the greatest extent practicable

The sharing of instructional materials or manipulatives (e.g. pencils, supplies, center activities, etc.) will be minimized to the greatest extent practicable

VISITORS, VOLUNTEERS, AND APPROVED OUTSIDE AGENCIES

In order to limit exposure for all students and staff, the school district may limit campus and facility visits by any nonessential visitors, community organizations, businesses, municipal partners, and speakers. Essential visitors are defined as those with business critical to the operation of the district (e.g. contractors, deliveries, staff members of the Department of Health ^ K , etc. Essential visitors also include district approved outside agencies which provide health related services to students (mental health counseling, etc).

All individuals entering a school or district building must follow the protocols outlined below.

- x All individuals will practice social distancing and wear a mask/face covering at all times.
- x Volunteers who participate in sporting and other organizations/club events/activities shall take all precautions to minimize the risk of transmission of COVID-19 to players, families, coaches and communities, including social distancing, frequent handwashing and wearing a mask/face covering.

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- x Dispensing approved medication (in alignment with Board policies) will continue to occur with

PARENT ACTIVITIES

Back to School Nights and Open Houses will be planned and organized by school-based leadership teams to ensure health and wellness procedures are in place.

Parents/guardians will be allowed to attend parent conferences, such as IEP/504/LEP Meetings, at the school building but must follow all health protocols which includes wearing a mask/face covering. Parents also have the option to attend the parent conference virtually if requested.

PTA Meetings should be held virtually for the first quarter of the 2020-2021 school year. Further communication will be provided regarding PTA meetings scheduled for subsequent quarters and will be based on recommendations from the Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

School Advisory Committees (SAC) meetings should be held virtually for the first quarter of the 2020-2021 school year. Once meetings are held in person, all CDC and Department of Health guidelines must be followed by SAC members and visitors.

WELLNESS PROCEDURES EDUCATION FOR STAKEHOLDERS

To ensure all students, families, visitors and staff understand the health and wellness protocols implemented by the district, communications will be shared prior to the beginning of the school year. These protocols will continue to be posted on the district website www.yourcharlotteschools.net and conveyed through automated telephone messaging.

Age-appropriate information on what COVID-19 is and what we can do to stay healthy (e.g. handwashing, social distancing) will be shared with students and staff.

Signage will be placed throughout each school and district facility reminding students, staff and visitors to practice social distancing, to wear a mask or face covering at all times when not eating or drinking, and to wash hands frequently and thoroughly.

INVESTIGATION OF POTENTIAL AND/OR CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES

Case investigation and contact tracing are effective tools to slow the spread of COVID-19 in a community. All investigations and contact tracing are led by the Department of Health of Charlotte County (DOH) in collaboration with Charlotte County Public Schools (CCPS) School Health Services.

As investigations of this nature include personal medical information and health data, much of the information is private and protected by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and other applicable state and federal regulations. The process below outlines the steps that will be taken for each potential or confirmed case as well as the type of communication.

1. School administrator,

