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*Inspired by Tradition,  
Educating for Tomorrow*

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## 2021-2022 Back-to-School COVID Protocols

With the return to school being a little over a month away, I want to share the school district's back-to-school protocols for the coming year as of today.

For roughly the past 18 months, everything we have done that has been related to the pandemic was about flexibility and making changes as we go. While there remains a lot of uncertainty as to what the future holds in this regard, change and flexibility will remain a constant.

All of the protocols listed below for the new school year are subject to change due to mandates from the Governor, the Ohio Department of Health, Allen County Public Health, and/or conditions within the school buildings.

### **MASK PROTOCOL**

Students and staff will **NOT** be required by the district to wear masks at any time **EXCEPT** for on school buses as masks are currently required by the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) for anyone riding public school transportation. The decision to wear a mask in school is best decided by parents/guardians, and we will follow this unless mandated otherwise or conditions within the district buildings warrant a change. Certainly anyone who chooses to wear a mask is welcome to do so.

### **CLEANING PROTOCOL**

The Elida School District will continue with the cleaning procedures that were put into place for last school year. Surfaces will continue to be cleaned and sanitized, and spraying will take place each evening. Hand sanitizing stations are available for staff and students throughout each building.

### **HEALTH CHECKS**

As is the case at any time, regardless of pandemic, students should not attend school if they have an elevated temperature of 100.5 or higher. Students are able to return to school once they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the assistance of medication.

Students who exhibit symptoms of COVID, influenza, or any other illness should not attend school.

Should you have any questions please contact the nurse of your child's building, or consult a family physician.

## **VACCINATION**

A COVID-19 vaccine is not a requirement for any staff and/or student to attend school at Elida. This is a personal decision that is best left to parents and staff members to decide on their own and for their own families.

## **QUARANTINE**

If a staff member or student contracts COVID-19, they need to be isolated until the health department gives them clearance to return to school. Our school nurses will once again assist the health department with contact tracing. Any students and/or staff members exhibiting signs or symptoms of COVID will be required to be quarantined.

## **SCHOOL DISTRICT OPERATION**

As was the case last year, Elida Schools plan to be open and in-person 5 days a week this school year.

*As a reminder, this is subject to change at a moment's notice due to any mandates that may come down or conditions within the district. Please continue to monitor changes on the district website or FaceBook page.*



Joel Mengerink  
Superintendent