

2021-22 School Year Plans

Recognizing the continued health risks related to COVID-19 and its variants, the Pius X High School Administration has developed the following COVID-19 Response Plan for the 2021-2022 school year. This plan has been developed through input and directives from the Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department, Information and guidance provided by The Centers for Disease Control, and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. These plans have been developed specifically for use at the high school level and may differ slightly from K-8 level plans. Due to the evolving nature of COVID-19 in Lincoln and throughout the world, these plans are subject to change as circumstances dictate. The administration will make every effort to effectively communicate changes through email, the school's website, and when appropriate, through its mass-texting communication system.

Definitions

1. For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions will be used:
 - A. Close contact - Anyone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a total of 15 minutes or more within 24 hours. Exclusion from attendance due to close contact does not exist when either individual is masked or if the person being exposed is fully vaccinated.
 - B. Fully Vaccinated – A person is considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after receiving the second dose in a 2-dose series, or 2 weeks after receiving the Johnson and Johnson single-dose vaccine.

Policies

1. Face Coverings
 - A. All school personnel and students must wear a face covering (as defined below) at all times when inside the school building
 - B. An approved face covering has the following characteristics:
 1. Provides complete coverage of the nasal opening and mouth.
 2. Is constructed with materials that are consistent with CDC guidelines including multiple layers
 3. Is tasteful in its appearance and does not contain potentially offensive or political messaging with words or symbols
 4. Does not have a vent or other opening in the mask
 - C. Under the following conditions, students and staff are not required to wear a mask or face covering.
 1. When eating lunch.
 2. When actively engaged in exercise. This would include PE classes and extra-curricular activities.
 3. When outdoors.
 - D. Mask exemptions are permitted under the following criteria.
 1. Medical issues that are documented in the student's emergency health plan, OR Individual Health Plan, which would physically prevent the wearing of a mask.

2. Significant behavioral needs that are documented in the student's Behavior Intervention Plan or 504
 - a. Students for whom face coverings may cause on-going significant distress that cannot not be remedied through teaching, problem solving, or other accommodations.
 - b. Students for whom significant distress may disrupt education, or whose distress may disrupt the education of others.
 - c. Students with a history of issues concerning restrictive clothing, close spaces, or high anxiety, or with other data supporting significant student distress.
 3. Exemptions will require documentation from a licensed medical or mental health practitioner identifying a history of a preexisting medical or mental health condition.
2. Good hand hygiene
 - A. Frequent washing of hands with soap and warm water will be encouraged.
 3. Symptom Monitoring and Exclusion
 - A. All staff, students, and visitors are expected to monitor for COVID-19 symptoms every day prior to arrival at school.
 - B. A student or staff member may be excluded from attendance and require a COVID-19 test under either of the following COVID-19 conditions:
 - a. Onset of COVID-19 symptoms as outlined below.
 - i. Any **ONE** of
 1. Fever over 100 degrees Fahrenheit
 2. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 3. New onset of dry cough
 4. Loss of taste or smell
 - ii. OR any **TWO** of
 1. Chills longer than two hours
 2. Congestion and/or runny nose
 3. Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
 4. Sore throat
 5. Headache
 6. Muscle pain
 - b. Close contact with a COVID-19 Positive individual if unvaccinated
 - C. Attendance Return from Close Contact
 - a. A person quarantined due to close contact may return to regular attendance after day 7 provided:
 - i. The person has a negative test where the specimen is collected no sooner than day 5.
 - ii. The person is not experiencing any symptoms
 - b. A person quarantined due to close contact without being tested may return to regular attendance after day 10 provided the person is not experiencing any symptoms.
 - D. Attendance Return from Symptoms or Positive Test

- a. A student or staff member who has been excluded from attendance due to COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test for COVID-19 will be allowed to return within the following categories:
 - i. If the student or staff experienced symptoms and tested positive or was not tested, all three conditions must be met.
 1. Fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine
 2. Other symptoms have improved (such as cough or shortness of breath)
 3. Ten calendar days of isolation have passed since symptoms first appeared
 - a. The first day of symptoms shall be counted as day one.
 - ii. A student or staff may return within the ten days and without a test if they are approved to return *in writing* by a qualified medical practitioner who provides an alternative diagnosis accounting for the symptoms. Return is not allowed under this condition if a person tests positive for COVID-19.
 - iii. If the student or staff experienced symptoms and tested negative for COVID-19 both conditions must be met.
 1. Fever free without the use of fever-reducing medicine
 2. Other symptoms have improved (such as cough or shortness of breath)

Extra-Curricular Activities

1. Face coverings are required for indoor extra-curricular activities.
2. Students are not required to wear face coverings when actively engaged in practice or competition.
3. Masks are required during team meetings and when sitting on the bench during competition.
4. Masks are required on school sponsored vehicles including busses and vans.
5. Coaches must wear a face covering at all times when not at least six feet away from players and other coaches.

Remote Learning

1. Pius X will not offer permanent remote learning for students during the 2021-2022 school year. Students who are temporarily excluded from attendance will have access to classes through PowerSchool Learning.

Attendance at School

1. The Pius X attendance policy will be in effect during the 2021-2022 school year.

Attendance at Pius X Activities

1. No restrictions for attendance limits are in place at events on the Pius campus.
2. For indoor activities on the Pius campus, face coverings for fans and spectators are required.

3. Spectators and family members should be aware of restrictions and masking requirements that may exist at events off the Pius campus.

COVID Vaccination Policy

1. The Diocese of Lincoln does not require anyone to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. We understand this is a personal, medical decision. Nor does the diocese require anyone to disclose whether one has received a COVID-19 vaccination.

Revision of Plan; Compliance with Plan

This 2021-2022 COVID-19 Response Plan (hereafter “Plan”) may be subject to revision in the sole discretion of the Pius X High School Administration. All revisions to the 2021-2022 Plan will be promptly communicated to students, parents, and staff. All students, parents, and staff are expected to comply with the rules and protocols described in this Plan. Compliance with the rules and protocols outlined above is critical for the health and safety of our students and staff. Intentional non-compliance by students may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Intentional non-compliance by staff may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.