

## CA COVID policy 2021-2022

As we look to a new school year at CA, we do so with hope and anticipation that this school year will mark a shift away from the restrictiveness in activities that we faced last year due to COVID. Canceling social activities and wearing face masks has been a detriment to the bonds of school community that has long characterized life at CA. We look forward to fully embracing all the outstanding spiritual/social events, activities, and gatherings that foster a positive school experience. With that expectation, here are our plans for the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff for the 2021-2022 school year.

It should be recognized – **these plans may change at any time.** The following represents our current plan:

1. CA, as last year, will maintain close contact with and will follow the guidance of the Hamilton County Health Department (HCHD), unless otherwise directed by the CA School Board. Our policy has been reviewed by the HCHD.
2. HCHD guidelines currently strongly recommend that facemasks be worn while at school. CA will follow the HCHD guideline to strongly encourage, but not mandate individual mask wearing. Conditions may necessitate the HCHD and CA using a mask mandate, if the situation warrants. Below is the HCHD official school recommendation:

*At this time, the Hamilton County Health Department strongly recommends that all individuals wear masks in school settings. New CDC guidance emphasizes the importance of wearing masks to reduce transmission in schools. Many school-aged children are not yet eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, leaving them susceptible to infection. To ensure that students and teachers are able to safely participate in in-person instruction, it is recommended that all wear masks and practice social distancing when possible.*

3. Following the HCHD guidelines, we encourage all students (age 12 and up), parents, faculty and staff whom are eligible to be vaccinated against the COVID virus. We recognize this is an individual decision that each family has the right to make in consultation with their healthcare professional.
4. Students who become ill should not attend classes or any on-or-off campus activities and either go home or stay home.
5. Students who become ill and have symptoms that are consistent with the COVID virus will not be allowed to attend classes or activities and will be required to take a COVID test for appropriate follow-up.
6. Students/Employees who are exposed to someone who has COVID, and who have not been vaccinated, will be required to quarantine. If you have been fully vaccinated, you do not have to quarantine if exposed to COVID. Quarantine will be handled like last year (10 days or 7 days with a negative test on day 5, 6 or 7 of quarantine).
7. We will prioritize quality, in-person learning rather than offering virtual instruction as a personal choice. Students will be expected to attend all classes in person.
  - If school/building were to close for a few days due to COVID, CA would treat it as we do other illnesses pre-pandemic.
  - In case of extended disruption for the entire school or class, we may go to virtual learning during that time.
  - In the case of individual quarantine, we will leave it to the discretion of our teachers on how to incorporate elements of remote learning, if at all (the high school, once cameras are installed, plan to post all classes online for later viewing).