

Dear HTS Families,

We are beyond excited to have our community back for another school year! Welcome back to our returning families and a special welcome to our new families! We have newly enrolled students in almost every grade and will continue to add more as the year progresses.

The 2020-2021 school year was a great success with on-site and hybrid instruction for all of our students. We were able to be open for the entire school year, providing students with an excellent educational experience despite the restrictions put upon us by the global pandemic. We are proud of our students and all they have accomplished this past year, and are equally as inspired by a staff that has shown relentless commitment to our vision of inclusion. We have a lot to look forward to this coming school year!

The health and safety of our students continues to be a priority and as such, we would like to inform you of the **Covid protocols and guidelines that we will be adhering to in the coming weeks and months**. Please make note of the **attached summary** and refer to our website for more complete information if you have any questions.

These plans are constantly evolving and we will continue to update you whenever changes impact our day to day functioning. **Please make special note of our travel guidelines since many of you will be taking trips over the next few weeks.**

With best wishes for good health,
HTS Administration

Hope Technology School Covid Precautions, Procedures, and Safety

IN THE CLASSROOM

HTS will continue to follow and implement appropriate Covid- 19 safety protocols.

Students will continue the following safety procedures:

- Regular handwashing.
- Physical distancing while eating indoors.
- Optimized ventilation. Classrooms will continue to have the door(s) and windows open. Our auditorium received a ventilation upgrade as well.
- Each classroom continues to have UV air purifiers.
- Limited visitors.
- Mask wearing - the CDC recommends that masks be required for all K-12 students.
- Disinfecting surfaces and common areas - with some lifting of Covid safety suggestions, HTS students will have more opportunities to share some materials while maintaining disinfecting guidelines.
- Mixing cohorts only for special projects and after school programs.
- **PLEASE NOTE! The CDC recommends all students 12 & up be vaccinated.**

SYMPTOMS

Students who show any symptoms, including but not limited to, fever of 100 or more, chills, loss of taste or smell, vomiting, nausea, headache, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, muscle or body aches, etc. must stay home and be symptom-free **48 hours before returning to school**. Students must also stay home if they exhibit any non-Covid related symptoms such as congestion and/or runny nose.

MASKS

Since we have students who are not yet eligible for vaccination, **masks will be required indoors** for all individuals capable of wearing them.

All adults must wear masks whether vaccinated or unvaccinated when in the presence of children both indoors and out.

VACCINATIONS

We **strongly recommend** those who are able and eligible to get vaccinated.

TRAVEL GUIDANCE

Although the California PHD travel guidance has been lifted, we are recommending that all travelers **postpone non-essential travel** until you are fully vaccinated. Where HTS guidance differs from PHD or CDC, we ask that parents use our guidelines when planning trips:

Since we do have students that are not vaccinated, we ask that you adhere to the following guidelines:

If you and your family members are vaccinated:

Follow [CDC travel guidance](#)

- **During Travel**
 - **Wearing a mask over your nose and mouth is required** on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and while indoors at U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations. Travelers are not required to wear a mask in outdoor areas of a conveyance (like on open deck areas of a ferry or the uncovered top deck of a bus).
 - Follow all state and local recommendations and requirements, including mask wearing and social distancing.
- **After Travel**
 - Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.
 - Follow all state and local recommendations or requirements.
 - [Isolate](#) and follow [public health recommendations](#) if you test positive or develop [symptoms of COVID-19](#).

If you or any of your family members are unvaccinated:

- Avoid non-essential travel

After you travel:

- Get tested with a [viral test](#) 3 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full **7 days after travel**.
 - Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days.
 - If your test is positive, [isolate](#) yourself to protect others from getting infected.
- **If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.**
- Avoid being around people who are at [increased risk for severe illness](#) for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.
- Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.
- Follow all [state and local](#) recommendations or requirements.

QUARANTINE GUIDELINES

Quarantine if you have been in [close contact](#) (within 6 feet of someone for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19, unless you have been [fully vaccinated](#).

Although the CDC states that people who are fully vaccinated do not need to quarantine after contact with someone who had COVID-19, we are requiring **vaccinated students that have**

come in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 to get tested at least 3 days after exposure and to stay home until they receive a negative test result. After which, they can return to school. An **asymptomatic person** must also wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure.

If the test result is positive, then they must isolate for 10 days before returning to school and follow guidelines for positive COVID-19 cases.

If a student is **unvaccinated** and a close contact to a COVID-19 case, **they must isolate and get tested 3-5 days after exposure and remain isolated for 10 days after exposure** whether the test is positive or negative. If the COVID-19 infected person lives in the same home, please see CDC guidelines or consult your teacher for further instructions.

If a student is a close contact and is **symptomatic**, they must **get tested right away** and follow the guidelines for negative or positive tests.