

# Frequently Asked Questions 2021-2022

Updated 9-1-21

#### Q: Do students have to wear masks?

A: The CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status.

Starting on Tuesday, September 7, 2021, all students and staff will be required to wear masks/face coverings while in any CPI building or when riding in school-sponsored transportation.

#### Q: Will there be field trips, assemblies, and special events this year?

A: We hope that many activities which were not possible last school year will resume in 2021-2022. Decisions will be made by the CPI Pandemic Team on a case-by-case basis based upon variables such as location, campus/building COVID case data, and level of community spread at the time of the event/activity, etc.

### Q: Why is some physical distancing still being implemented in classrooms/labs and other educational spaces whenever appropriate?

A: The PA Department of Education has directed schools to utilize the CDC's Guidance for Schools in developing their Health and Safety Plans, The CDC is advising that schools continue to implement physical distancing in these settings whenever feasible and appropriate. Physical distancing is one of the most effective methods of reducing quarantines and is a recommended layered prevention strategy.

#### Q: Should students still self-screen for symptoms before coming to school?

A: **YES**, students should self-screen each day before coming to school. If the student or a family member is not feeling well, exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms (one or more symptoms from Group A and two or more from Group B below), or taking fever-reducing medication, the student should STAY AT HOME and parents/guardians should notify the school nurse. If anyone in your household tests

positive for COVID-19, follow the guidance provided by your healthcare provider, DOH, or the school nurse related to isolation/quarantine, contact tracing, and returning to school.

| Group A (one or more symptoms) | Group B (two or more symptoms) |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Cough                          | Fever                          |
| Shortness of Breath            | Chills                         |
| Difficulty Breathing           | Body Aches                     |
| Loss of Taste or Smell         | Headache                       |
|                                | Sore Throat                    |
|                                | Nausea or Vomiting             |
|                                | Diarrhea                       |
|                                | Fatigue                        |
|                                | Congestion or Runny Nose       |

# Q: What if a student gets sick or must quarantine?

A: If a student displays symptoms of COVID-19 or has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, please contact your health care/provider for further guidance. Students should not report to school until you receive this guidance. If the physician is recommending quarantine, contact the CPI School Nurse for further information. If a student is healthy but in quarantine, the student will be able to continue their education during the quarantine by acquiring assignments from the program area instructor.

# Q: Does a student have to quarantine after an exposure to someone with COVID-19 if they are vaccinated or had already had COVID?

A: CPI will comply with the direction of the CDC, PA Department of Health, and/or Sending School Districts:

At this time, those directions include:

• Fully Vaccinated Individuals

If determined to be a close contact (6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19, vaccinated individuals do not have to quarantine unless they are experiencing symptoms.

However, they should:

- → Wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until receiving a negative test result
- → Get tested 3-5 days after the exposure, even without symptoms
- → Isolate for 10 days if the test result if positive

# • COVID-19 Positive within 3 Months:

If determined to be a close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19, individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months:

- → The positive result must have come from a PCR or Antigen Test. Antibody tests will not be accepted
- → Do not have to quarantine or get tested as long as they do not develop symptoms
- Individuals who are NOT Fully Vaccinated:

If determined to be a close contact (6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19, individuals who are not fully vaccinated:

→ Must quarantine for 10 days

# We respectfully request that parents/guardians remain cooperative with school staff when quarantine and other instructions are communicated.

#### Q: How will I know about COVID-19 exposures at CPI?

A: When a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 or has been exposed, CPI will consult with the Department of Health (DOH), as necessary and appropriate, to assist the school with risk assessment, isolation, and quarantine recommendations, and other infection control measures. Close contacts will be informed of their possible exposure and receive instructions regarding

quarantine. CPI will follow the direction of the DOH regarding any necessary communication and other actions. CPI will take every measure to maintain the confidentiality of the affected individual.

# We respectfully request that parents/guardians remain cooperative with school staff when quarantine and other instructions are communicated.

### Q: Will CPI require proof of vaccination from staff or students?

A: At this time, CPI does not intend to require staff or students to provide proof of vaccination for general purposes. HOWEVER, if a vaccinated student or staff member is identified as a close contact to a positive case of COVID-19, the vaccinated student or staff member will be asked to provide verification of vaccination status to avoid quarantines, as described above.

If identified to quarantine and proof of vaccination has not previously been provided to the School Nurse, the student or staff member must quarantine (leave school/work) until proof can be presented.

Any parents wishing to preemptively provide proof of vaccination for a student to avoid quarantines may do so by providing a copy of your vaccination card (scan/email or hard copy) to the school nurse or Director of Secondary Education (<u>mavolders@cpi.edu</u>).

# Q: Will classrooms and other high traffic areas continue to be cleaned thoroughly?

A: Yes. Classrooms, labs, offices, and other high traffic areas will continue to be cleaned daily with high touch points (desks, tables, counters, handrails, etc.) cleaned throughout the day.

In addition, all staff and students are asked to follow responsible hand washing and hygiene etiquette at all times. Hand sanitizer stations are available in all classrooms and public areas throughout CPI.

#### Q: Is there still a possibility that some remote learning could occur this year?

A: Yes. Although we are planning an entire year of full-time, in-person learning for all students and staff, we cannot ignore the possibility of having to participate in at least some remote learning this year. It is the goal of the CPI Pandemic Team and Administration to keep as many students in school at all times as possible. This means that a specific program area(s) or building wing could move to remote learning while the remainder of the school continues to attend in person. This does not mean that full remote learning is not a possibility given school-wide transmission levels.