

## **Student Handbook**

### **Safety is Our Priority**

**Your school will be following CDC, St. Lucie County Department of Health and district guidelines on health and hygiene during the COVID-19 pandemic. These rules are subject to change as circumstances change.**

### **On Your Bus**

Your bus driver will be wearing PPE (personal protective equipment). You will sanitize your hands as you enter the bus. You must also be wearing a mask. If you forget your mask, the bus driver will provide you with a disposable mask. You must wear it while on the bus. You will be asked to sit apart, if feasible. The bus driver may choose to drive with the windows down.

### **Walk or Riding a Bike to School**

You must wear a mask to enter school grounds and you will use hand sanitizer before entering the campus.

### **Who Wears a Mask?**

All students, staff, visitors and vendors will be required to wear a mask or face covering unless an approved exemption applies or social distancing can be maintained. The following exemptions apply: people eating or drinking; people for whom a face covering would cause an impairment due to an existing health condition (requires a doctor's note); people observing social distancing in accordance with CDC guidelines; people who need to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired and needs to see the person's mouth to communicate; persons participating in recess and physical education classes while maintaining social distancing. For students with an IEP or a 504, appropriate accommodations may be made based on the individualized needs of the students.

### **Guidelines**

Guidelines for Masks or Face Coverings:

- Must cover the nose and mouth to maintain effectiveness.
- Must be secured to minimize the need to adjust frequently.
- Must be school-appropriate, non-offensive, not considered derogatory or otherwise disrespectful. Logos, graphics, and designs must be professionally appropriate. School dress-code for t-shirts applies to any graphics, logos or designs on masks.
- Do not need to be medical grade.
- Masks should be made of a solid cotton blend material. It may not be made of lace or mesh, have holes or be designed in a way that defeats the purpose of wearing a mask (which is to limit a person's moist breath from reaching others and to stop the other's moist breath from reaching the wearer, thus serving as a barrier to COVID19 spread). The principal will make the final determination as to the suitability of any mask.

- Should be worn prior to entering a building and in shared areas of the building when social distancing is not possible, *as directed by staff members*.
- Must be disposed of in trash can only.

### **How to Remove a Mask or Face Coverings**

- Clean your hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer before touching the mask.
- Avoid touching the front of the mask. Touch only the ear loops. The front of the mask is contaminated.
- Hold both ear loops and gently lift and remove the mask.

### **When Should I Wear My Mask?**

- You must wear a mask when on school grounds. You must wear your mask to enter and ride the school bus.
- You must wear your mask when transitioning between classes.
- You must wear your mask at school until a staff member has decided there enough social distance for students to remove the mask for a while.
- Under no circumstances may you leave a disposable mask on the ground or in any other place than a trash can after using the mask or if it breaks.
- You do not have to wear a mask when eating or drinking at breakfast or lunch.
- You do not have to wear a mask when receiving medical care or in a medical emergency.
- You do not have to wear a mask while playing a musical instrument, performing or rehearsing a choral or theatrical performance.
- You still must wear a mask when singing of the National Anthem, school alma maters, or songs performed by students, employees or visitors not engaged in a planned choral or theater class.
- You must wear a mask when staying for extra-curricular activities.

**Students who refuse to wear a mask will be removed from class and may be administratively reassigned to an alternative learning environment off-campus.**

### **Am I Allowed to Wear a Face Shield?**

You must always wear a mask. You can choose to add a face shield and wear both mask and face shield. You must provide your own face shield.

### **Hand Sanitizer**

You can carry personal hand sanitizer on you. Your teachers will also have hand sanitizer. Please sanitize your hands when entering a classroom and when leaving a classroom. Also, if you use any shared equipment (science lab tools, highlighters, etc.) make sure and sanitize your hands afterwards.

**Classroom or Computer Lab Cleaning**

Your teacher may ask you to wipe your own desk down after you use it, with a hand wipe. Also, if you are in a computer lab, the teacher will ask you to wipe down the key board and mouse with a hand wipe when you are done using the devices.

**Social Distancing**

Social Distancing is keeping six feet apart when possible. When you are walking in hallways or in a court yard, you need to keep a 6-foot distance between you and the next person, when possible. There are going to be times at school when it is not possible to keep social distance. That is why it is very important to wear a mask to protect yourself and others.

**Water Fountains**

Water Fountains will not be available until further notice. You can bring a water bottle that must be kept in your backpack. Ask permission to bring it out for a drink. It must then be safely stowed back in your backpack.

**Breakfast and Lunch**

Students will sanitize their hands as they enter the cafeteria. Breakfast and lunch will be prepackaged to prevent extra touching or contamination. You will not have to enter your 56-number as the cafeteria staff will do it for you. Cafeterias will require students to sit spaced out to promote social distancing. You may remove your mask to eat and drink. Sharing of food items or utensils is prohibited.

**Dismissal**

Students must leave campus per the staff directions. Walker and bikers must leave immediately and cannot remove their masks until they leave campus. Parent pick-up students must stay six feet apart while waiting for their rides.