



HOPE LUTHERAN SCHOOL

HLS PANDEMIC FAMILY HANDBOOK

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Hope Lutheran School is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all its students, parents, employees, and community members. We have carefully updated our Pandemic Family Handbook (PFH) for the 2021-2022 school year, based on updated guidance and procedures from the Department of Health, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the recommendations from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). We recognize that through the implementation of the following coordinated and overlapping efforts, we can greatly reduce although not eliminate the risk of COVID-19 transmission in our community. We strive to balance mitigation policies with the known benefits of children experiencing in-person learning.

Hope Lutheran School may update this PFH as federal, state, and local guidelines and regulations change. It is also included as a temporary addendum to HLS's Parent Handbook. Unless communicated otherwise, the rules and guidance of this PFH are the most updated guidance if there is any inconsistency between it and the existing Parent Handbook. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the school office.

The success of limiting transmission of the COVID-19 virus depends completely on the full cooperation and support of our community members, and everyone is responsible for implementing and complying with safety protocols. This PFH includes steps that Hope School is specifically taking to mitigate contagion, along with steps families must take to support the school.

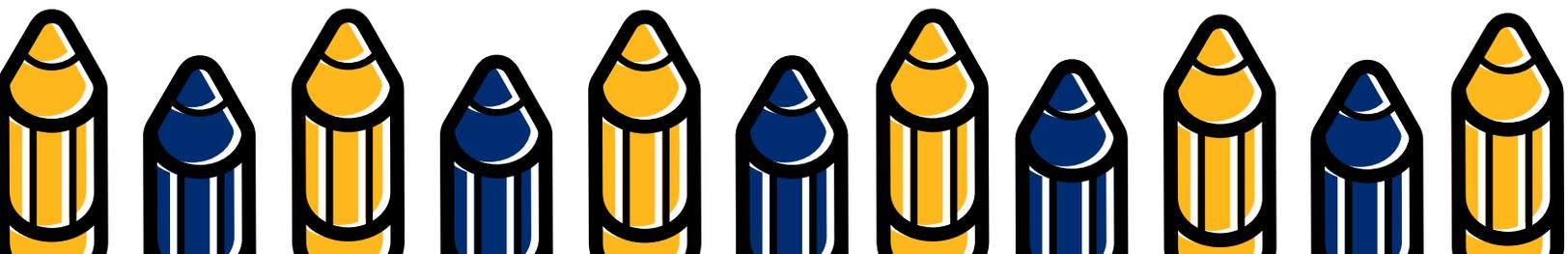


On-Campus Learning

Hope Lutheran School plans to open on September 1, 2021 with full in person learning 5 days per week in all grades. Safeguarding the health of our community members is our top priority; if necessary, we are prepared to change to online learning throughout the school year if public health guidelines require us to do so. Please note HLS does not plan to utilize a hybrid or live streaming learning model during the coming school year.

Program Modifications

Changes from a typical day this year at Hope include staggered drop-off and pick-up times, limited and carefully planned large group events, cohorting grades preschool through grade 6 as much as possible with limited cohorting in grades 7 and 8, returning to in-person chapel but separating into multiple services, and limiting extra-curricular activities and clubs.



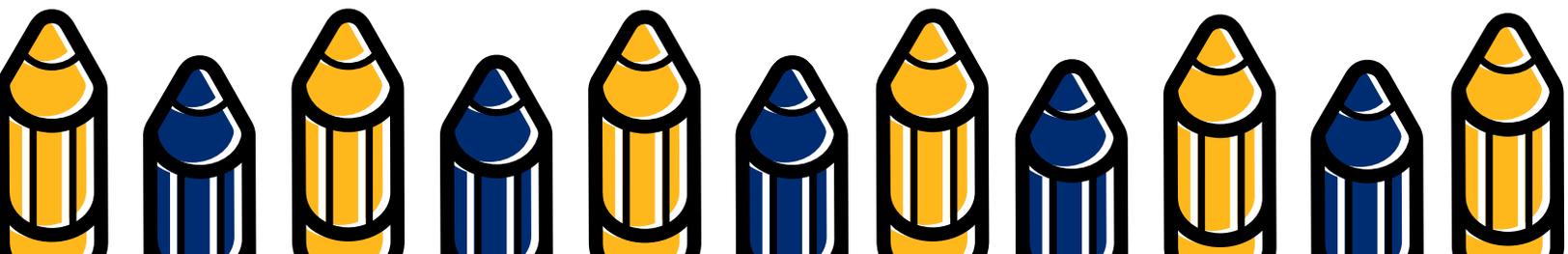
Mitigation Strategies

We recognize that through the implementation of coordinated efforts, we can greatly reduce, not eliminate, the risk of COVID-19 transmission in our community. We continue to implement basic infection prevention measures, including:

- Frequent handwashing
- Application of hand sanitizer at arrival and other times of the day
- Respiratory etiquette
- Face coverings
- Daily cleaning and disinfection of the school
- Effective ventilation including updated HVAC systems, air purifiers, and open windows
- Limiting campus access
- Compliance with staff vaccination requirements
- Use of water bottles

Face Coverings

All students, staff, and visitors to campus must wear multi-layer face coverings on campus unless briefly eating or drinking. Students should bring at least one additional face mask in their backpack. The nose and mouth must be fully covered and the covering should fit snugly against the sides of the face so there are no gaps. Face coverings do not have to be worn by employees when they are alone in their classroom or office and students are not present. Additionally, students who are singing in music, chapel, or class will wear a specific 3 layer mask provided by HLS. Students and staff will wear masks while inside or outside due to potential close contact with others on the playground.



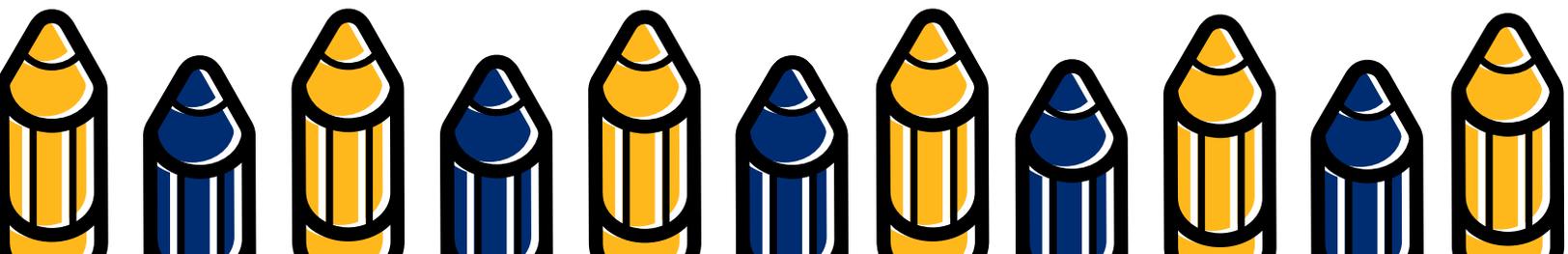
Limiting Campus Access

Again this year, visitors to campus will be limited to reduce the potential for virus spread. Families must drop-off and pick-up their child from outside the building, preferably remaining in cars for K-8 drop-off and pick-up. Parents and guardians may be allowed in the building for specific and important events such as the back to school event. A limited number of vaccinated volunteers are needed to assist with lunch and recess duty, along with other special tasks. Families may drop off forgotten or missed items to the drop box at the front of the school on 42nd Ave SW, labeled with their child's name.

All volunteers at the school must be vaccinated.

Water Bottles

All students should bring a water bottle daily to fill up with the bottle refilling stations or faucets in classrooms. Water fountains are only available for refilling bottles.



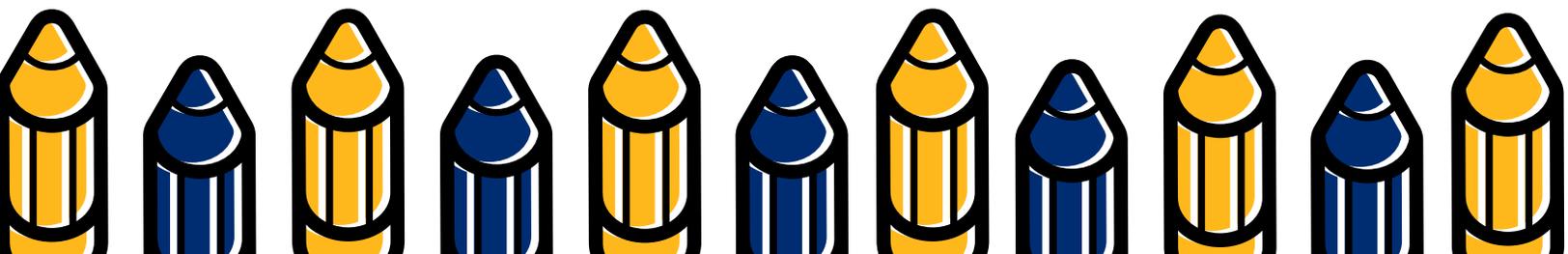
Health Screening and Symptom Testing and Reporting

We will operate the campus with the following practices to care for the health and well-being of our community:

Health Screening

Parents/guardians must assess their child each day for the symptoms below. Students who have symptoms must remain home and away from school and others if experiencing any of the following possible symptoms of COVID-19:

- Fever (temperature of 100.4 or higher) or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea



Symptom Reporting and Testing

Parents/guardians should continue to report student absences, COVID-19 symptoms, close contacts, and confirmed cases to the school office via email at office@hopeseattle.org or phone (206) 935-8500.

Families will be responsible for screening their child each morning for the symptoms listed above. Hope Lutheran School will not formally screen each student this year but students will be monitored throughout the day. Students with any COVID-19 symptoms will be isolated in the isolation room and parents/guardians will be called for pick-up. Students with COVID-19 symptoms, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, will need a negative COVID-19 test prior to returning to school. In addition, students must be fever-free for at least 24 hours and symptoms must have improved. HLS may implement rapid testing with parent approval.

Quarantining

Individuals who are absent due to a positive COVID-19 test may return to school 10 days after the positive test as long as symptoms have improved. Unvaccinated students who are quarantining after COVID-19 exposure may return to school after 7 days as long as they remain symptom-free. Vaccinated students and staff who are exposed to COVID-19 do not need to quarantine unless they demonstrate symptoms. HLS will follow current guidance from the Department of Health. **Please note students and staff who are vaccinated must have their vaccinations verified with the school office.**



Communication with Families

In the event that a member of our community tests positive for COVID-19 who has been on campus and potentially exposed other members of the community to COVID-19, HLS will communicate information about the date and any potentially exposed individuals to the community. In the event that a family member of a student or staff member reports a positive test, if there is relevance or an impact to the community, HLS will share that information.

Final Thoughts

During the 2020-2021 school year, Hope Lutheran School had zero transmissions of COVID-19 between community members. With overlapping mitigation protocols, we hope to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in the school this year but we can only do that with your cooperation. Thank you for your support of our school, staff, and students as we work together. Please continue to lift up our community in prayer as we navigate through another year of pandemic protocols.

