

Dear Lexington Parent Guardian:

8/26/21

It has been exciting to begin a new year with our students and we thank you for your families support of our schools. A major part of that excitement has been seeing students build important connections with trusted faculty and staff.

As you probably know, SY 21-22 virtual enrollment has been limited to those who provided a health care authorization for homebound instruction. After considering the characteristics of the most recent covid-19 variant surge we have made the decision to extend that availability to students 11 years old and younger. For this group, it is reasonable to view the lack of current vaccine opportunity to be a medical reason when considering enrollment choices. Please be aware this is not the school taking a position on vaccines as they relate to personal decision making and responsibility, but simply recognizing the fact that a vaccine is not yet available to children under twelve even in the case a family would make that choice. It is believed that the existing and developing health and safety measures at school continue to make direct instruction the best educational decision for most students, while realizing a virtual option may be necessary for some students in this age category. A family making this consideration may contact the appropriate school office no later than September 7th. It is important to understand that if a participating student is twelve when the spring semester begins they will be asked to return to in-person learning unless a more serious health condition with a physician's order is present at that time.

We also want to use this communication to update you regarding positive case, quarantine, and exposure protocols. We will continue to expect that positive test case individuals will not return until a minimum of seven days with no remainder of symptoms for at least forty eight hours. While we will not regularly require quarantine for potential exposure, we do ask for your assistance in the case of a potential home exposure. Please consider the following: How many people at home have tested positive or are symptomatic? Is it age appropriate for the student to isolate at home? For example, if the number of cases are high or isolation is not possible the likelihood that the student has been meaningfully exposed is high. We would ask in these instances that a family exercise self-quarantine or provide negative test results after at least five days from last exposure. Please communicate with the school and we will work diligently to make academic arrangements. Lastly, we want to inform you under what circumstances that the school will be informing you of a potential exposure to a confirmed positive case at school (for informational purposes only): For circumstances where it is believed that a students grade level and daily activities allow for as much distancing as possible we will use seating charts and any other details we may have to call the parent or guardian of students within a six foot fifteen minute or longer proximity to the case. For most younger students whose routines include more group and center activities, it may be necessary to inform the parent or guardian of a wider group of students, such as a classroom. We will include any situational information like whether a face covering was being worn, etc. when it is known, but may not always have that information readily available, nor will we use it to make the determination whether or not to call.

Another important thing to mention is that a state ppe allocation has meant that the school is well supplied with basic medical masks as a face covering option for any student or visitor that might want one. Please see any school office for availability. Any student or visitor that is subjected to inappropriate comments or actions for their choice of wearing a facial covering should make a report to a school administrator.

We will continue to provide information when pertinent, but please remember that we will not routinely monitor or address questions or requests for information from social media. You are always welcome to contact any of our offices for assistance.

Thank you for your attention and, as always, for being a Bulldog! Working together, we will achieve a BOLD pride and purpose this year.

-LPS Admin-