



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF
GALVESTON-HOUSTON

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THE ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON



MEMORANDUM

TO: Catholic Schools in The Archdiocese of Galveston - Houston

FROM: Debbie Haney, Superintendent of Catholic Schools

RE: COVID-19 Protocols for the upcoming school year

As we embark upon the 2021-2022 school year, The Archdiocesan Catholic Schools Office will continue to review these COVID-19 protocols each quarter and will monitor the presence of COVID-19 in the community, the counties' vaccination rates, and the guidance from public health officials so that we can mitigate the spread of the virus. We will update these protocols, if needed, based on the most up to date information as we strive to provide safe and healthy learning environments for our students and keep our schools open with face-to-face instruction in the 2021-2022 school year. After consultation with principals, nurses, parents, medical personnel, and public health officials, listed below are the minimum expectations for all schools within the boundaries of the Archdiocese.

Minimum level of expectations for all schools:

- Masks are optional for the 2021-2022 school year if conditions remain stable or improve throughout the summer
- Self-screening for staff and students daily
- Regular cleaning, disinfecting, sanitizing
- Handwashing and hygiene protocols
- Extracurricular (sports and clubs) allowable
- Field trips resume; buses permitted following guidelines provided by the CSO in August 2021
- Isolation rooms identified and used if needed
- Quarantine requirements follow CDC guidelines; those fully vaccinated do not have to quarantine
- To serve the school community, individual volunteers/visitors will be allowed on campus after being properly screened
- Maintain other health protocols as indicated by the CDC
- Parish protocols for Masses and liturgical celebrations will follow Archdiocesan directives from His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo

Options for schools to decide on at the campus level include:

- Onsite temperature screening conducted by staff
- Use of dividers/screens
- Social distancing protocols based on CDC guidelines