

Dear Families,

Our district has put together a website for all the COVID information that you may need to access. It is now live at <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/covid-19/>. This site includes the COVID Dashboard, Quarantine Help Guides, directions to access online textbooks and Schoology, and Health & Safety resources. This is a great resource for families, and we are very grateful that our district has put all the pertinent information in one place for you. Please take a few minutes to review the shared information.

I have received emails regarding our safety protocols here at R. B. Hunt and rather than address each email specifically, I decided to send the information out to everyone as many may have the same questions. Many protocols will be the same as last year and some have been adjusted. I hope this helps.

- **Classroom configurations:** Teachers will do their best to spread students out throughout the classroom. We are unable to space all desks out 3-6 feet. Our classroom sizes do not allow for that. Students learn on the carpet during the day and seating charts will mirror the desk seating charts to minimize quarantining if needed.
- **Cafeteria:** We have been directed to limit our cafe capacity to 75% this school year. Due to the capacity limits, we must continue with no visitors at lunch time for all grades. Thank you for understanding.
- **Desks shields and temperature checks:** Neither of these former procedures will be utilized school-wide. These decisions were made by the restart committee for the district which included health officials, principals, and district staff in conjunction with the county department of health. If you wish for your child to use a desk shield, please contact their teacher.
- **Masks:** Parents and staff have the choice to come to school masked or unmasked. We have spent time during the first week of school reminding students to be respectful of each family's choice. We will not tolerate any negative comments regarding someone's decision to wear or not wear a mask. As a reminder, there is not a mask mandate for teachers and staff. We also have a choice. It is not appropriate for parents to request a teacher wear a mask, nor a teacher to request that a student wear a mask. We all need to respect each other's right to choose.
- **Vaccination status:** As a reminder, vaccines are a choice and we cannot ask anyone if they have been vaccinated or not. This would be a violation of the Personal Health Information Protection Act.
- **Quarantining:** Unfortunately, we are still experiencing a pandemic and quarantining will continue. As you reference the district website, you will see the updated quarantining timelines, how to access on-line textbooks, instructional expectations for the school and the student, COVID testing information, etc. The information is complete and very helpful on the district site.
If your child has been in close contact with a positive individual and is quarantined you will receive a text alert to read an email from the Department of Health that contains information on symptoms to watch for, testing and return to school dates.
- **Small group instruction and/or interventions:** Yes, we will have small groups meet with teachers to reteach, remediate, or differentiate. Teachers are aware of the "close contact" guidelines (within 3-6 feet for 15 minutes or more). Teachers will either space students out if the small group instruction time will exceed the 15 minutes or they will limit the time to under 15 minutes. Students will not be grouped based on whether they wear a mask or not. Students will be grouped based on instructional needs only, as always.
- **School cleaning protocols:** All enhanced cleaning protocols that were introduced last year will continue with no interruption.

We hope this information is of help to you and answers questions you may have. Please consult the district website for more information.

