



## **North Lake School District #14**

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# **Recovering from COVID-19**

## **Key Messages for Parents about the 2022-23 School Year**

**Decision-making remains local, and school leaders make decisions to best serve their community. Nearly all COVID-19 health and safety protocols remain advisory.**

- As Oregon enters the next phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, K-12 schools will no longer operate under emergency state direction.
- The shift to local decision-making means that school districts, including ours, determine how to implement health and safety protocols like face coverings and physical distancing.
- At North Lake School District, the School Board officially approved a “mask optional” policy. Masks are therefore not required, but may be worn, based on individual preference.
- In addition, we will not enforce physical distancing or quarantining.
- We will continue to wash our hands frequently, follow required exclusion guidelines and encourage students to stay home when symptomatic with any communicable disease.
- We will follow the vaccination guidelines for teachers, school staff and volunteers.
- We will remain vigilant about health and safety in order to protect in-person instruction for students and staff. One of our greatest challenges is maintaining a full staff, so keeping everyone healthy is of utmost importance.

**As schools plan for the 2022-23 school year, it is important to remember: Our communities will continue to experience outbreaks of respiratory disease, including COVID-19.**

- The combined burden of COVID-19, flu, and other respiratory viruses co-occurring in our communities means that we will need to continue to be vigilant about health and safety in order to protect in-person instruction and students and staff.
- COVID-19 continues to change with new variants and our knowledge of mitigation efforts grows over time.
- According to the CDC and OHA, the best tools to protect individuals are vaccination and boosting when eligible, face coverings, physical distancing, ventilation and airflow, hand hygiene, and staying home if ill. Implementing layered mitigation can prevent illness and keep students in school learning with teachers and staff.
- We will provide information regarding vaccinations and vaccination clinics as it becomes available to us from the CDC, OHA and Local Public Health.

**There are a few requirements from the state that each school district is required to follow.**

- These are requirements that exist in federal or state law or rule.
- All teachers, school staff and volunteers must be fully vaccinated or have provided documentation of a medical or religious exception in order to teach, work, learn, study, assist, observe, or volunteer at a school. This is also true for school-based program staff and volunteers.
- Other requirements include maintaining a school-level COVID-19 management plan, a communicable disease management plan, excluding students and staff with certain symptoms or illnesses, and maintaining an isolation space in schools.
- North Lake will follow the vaccination or exception requirement. We also have a School-Level COVID-19 Management Plan and a communicable disease management plan. By law, we must exclude students when they exhibit certain symptoms or illnesses. We do have an isolation space (sick room) where students may go when they are ill and waiting for parents to pick them up. Information is posted on the COVID page on our district website at: [www.nlake.k12.or.us](http://www.nlake.k12.or.us)

**Thank you for your support in making our school be the best it can be!**