



January 14, 2022

Dear Mercy families,

We have been carefully monitoring our internal and external environment, as well as adjusted guidance from health authorities.

As a result, please note the following protocols starting January 18:

- Any student, faculty, or staff member who tests positive for COVID-19 must quarantine for five days according to the following:
  - No symptoms: Day one of the quarantine is the day AFTER testing positive.
  - Symptoms: Day one of the quarantine is the day AFTER symptoms begin.
  - Individuals who are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and whose symptoms are improving may return after five days.
- Any individual who is vaccinated and is a close contact to someone with COVID-19 outside of the home and does not have symptoms does not need to quarantine. A close contact within the home requires individuals to observe a five-day quarantine. Any individual who develops symptoms following a close contact is required to get a PCR test or isolate for five days after symptoms develop.
- Any individual who is unvaccinated and is a close contact to someone with COVID-19 must quarantine for five days. Day one of the quarantine is the day after exposure. Any individual who develops symptoms following a close contact is required to get a PCR test or isolate for five days after symptoms develop.
- Individuals must rigorously observe mask wearing in school settings.

Individuals who had been assigned a 10-day quarantine may now return to school after five days.

Thank you for reminding your daughters to observe the following campus protocols:

- Wear masks covering mouth and nose throughout the day except when eating. We strongly encourage the use of KN95 or three-ply surgical masks.
- Wash hands frequently.
- Maintain three feet of social distancing in all areas.
- Stay home when sick.

We are continuing to employ mitigation strategies which have proven effective. Our modern HVAC system in classrooms which brings in fresh air, social distancing, masking, touchless restrooms, hand sanitation stations, and the frequent wiping down of desks all help to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and other airborne illnesses.

**Please note:** COVID positive results for students and household members must be reported to our school nurse, Ms. Mary Rizzi-Ayd, at 410-433-880, ext. 291 or at [mrizzi-ayd@mercyhighschool.com](mailto:mrizzi-ayd@mercyhighschool.com).

Sincerely yours,

Mary Beth Lennon '85  
President

Kathryn Adelsberger  
Principal

Mary Ella Franz Marion '76, P'09  
Dean of Students