



August 17, 2021

**EHOVE Career Center
Welcome Back to School Information
School Year 2021-2022**

I hope everyone is having a fun and restful summer. I am excited to welcome our students and families to the start of the 2021-22 school year! EHOVE will return with 100% in person teaching and learning. In person learning, five full days per week is not only critical to the social, emotional, academic health of our students, but essential for the necessary hands-on experience our students need in their selected career technical program. The 2020-21 school year was challenging, but we learned how to utilize successful interventions to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic. Looking back at last year's challenges and preparing for this year's potential obstacles, my goal will be to continue moving our organization to our common mission of *preparing the future workforce for in-demand careers through skilled hands-on education*. We learned from last year's challenges and will be ready to make any necessary adjustments to keep our students engaged in hands-on learning. I have provided details below regarding the strategies that we will continue to utilize in order to have a successful school year.

There are currently no emergency health orders in Ohio so we have updated our policies and procedures accordingly. EHOVE will incorporate the recommendations of the Erie County Health Department, Ohio Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) into our procedures. Our school district will continue to implement intense cleaning procedures, utilize our needlepoint bi-polar ionization HVAC system, consistent hand washing, and distancing as much as possible. We welcome and encourage the use of face coverings inside of the school buildings for all staff and students as is recommended, but not required, by the CDC and the Ohio Department of Health. This is a decision that each family will have the opportunity to make for your individual circumstances. Face coverings will be made available for families who choose this added layer of intervention for their students. As we have come to expect during the pandemic, information remains fluid as new data is studied and cases rise and fall within communities. According to the CDC vaccination remains the strongest intervention to combat COVID-19. If you are interested in a vaccination for yourself or your student please contact EHOVE's School Based Health Center on our campus at 567-867-5174.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris M. McCully", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Mr. Chris M. McCully
Superintendent



2020-2021 Opening Plan

Health and Safety Measures

Caregiver Expectations

- Ensure all contact information is up to date.
- Ensure there are multiple prearranged and available methods for picking up a student from school should they become ill or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19.
- Perform daily wellness checks at home before sending students to school.
- Inform school staff at the beginning of the school year if students have chronic conditions that may mimic the symptoms of COVID-19 (above).
- Provide a water bottle for student use at school.
- Provide an appropriate face covering for student use if the family chooses this mitigation strategy.
- Refer to the most recent "COVID-19 Guide for Symptomatic Individuals"

Families that have come in close contact with a person that has tested positive for COVID-19 should contact the Erie County Health Department and follow their recommendations prior to returning to school.

Vaccination

- The CDC and all local health officials recommend and encourage getting vaccinated as an effective strategy against COVID-19.
- Vaccines are currently available for all individuals ages 12 and up.
- Vaccination appointments can be made at local hospitals, health departments, pharmacies or by calling the EHOVE School Based Health Center on campus at 567-867-5174.
- Individuals who choose to be vaccinated and are asymptomatic, are not required to quarantine if they are exposed to someone with COVID-19.
- Unvaccinated individuals who are exposed to someone with the COVID-19 virus will be required to quarantine according to the guidelines of the Erie County Health Department.

Face Coverings

- As of the date this was published, there are currently no state orders mandating face coverings in Ohio.
- While there are no State mandates as of the date this was published, families will have the option to choose whether or not to wear face coverings inside of the school buildings as a mitigation strategy against COVID-19. For more information on face coverings on school buses please read this entire document.
- The CDC recommends wearing a face covering indoors in areas of substantial to high transmission. Each family should consider their circumstances and make the decision whether or not to wear a face covering while at school.
- Students have the option to wear their own school appropriate face covering or one provided by the school district.

HVAC and Ventilation

- All HVAC settings will maximize ventilation. All systems follow a regular maintenance cycle.
- EHOVE Career Center improved its ventilation system by installing a needlepoint bi-polar ionization as part of its safety & wellness efforts during the pandemic that will also be a long-term asset. The ionization system is very effective in killing COVID-19, as well as other viruses, bacteria and molds, including influenza.
- Needlepoint bi-polar ionization is a patented technology that helps clean the air by producing a high concentration of positive and negative ions and delivering them through the ventilation system. Certified third-party testing shows that it kills 99.4% of pathogens in 30 minutes.
- EHOVE is one of the first schools in the area to install the technology, which has been recommended by the Centers for Disease Control to all schools and universities. Hospitals have been using it for some time, but the pandemic has caused its expansion to new areas.
- Adding this system to our enhanced procedures is yet another way to keep our students and staff as safe as possible.
- Within the air stream, ions attach to particles, where they combine, become larger, and are more easily filtered from the air. When ions come in contact with pathogens, they disrupt the pathogen's surface proteins, rendering them inactive.
- Long-term benefits of the system also include controlling odors, decreasing the number of particles in the air, keeping the HVAC components clean, and reducing the amount of outside air needed in the building, which results in a savings of energy and utility costs.

Daily Entry/Exit into School Buildings

- Temperature checks are recommended to be conducted by families prior to sending students to school. Thermometers are readily available at school for children to be checked as well.
- Wellness checks for symptoms are recommended to be conducted by the student's families and all school employees prior to coming to campus.
- Anyone exhibiting symptoms should stay home.

Quarantine requirements for students and staff who test positive or are exposed to COVID

- Students/Staff who are COVID-19 positive will be quarantined for a period of ten (10) days from the onset of symptoms.
- Unvaccinated individuals who are exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID-19 will be subject to quarantine.
- See the EHOVE "Guidelines for Quarantine After School Exposure" for more information.

Physical Distancing

- Student desks will be placed as far away from each other as is possible in each classroom.
- When possible, student desks will all face the same direction.
- Regular hand washing will be encouraged and hand sanitizer will be readily available.

Daily Cleaning of Classrooms and Common Areas

- Custodial staff will continue the rigorous sanitizing of classrooms, restrooms, and common areas.
- Sanitation systems have been purchased for all buildings and fogging will take place to disinfect all hard surfaces on a daily basis.

Access to Hand Sanitizer and Washing of Hands

- We will teach, remind and encourage frequent hand washing.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and in common areas throughout the building.

Transportation

- A CDC order is in effect mandating face coverings on all public transportation, including school buses regardless of vaccination status.
- Students will sit in assigned seats (to assist with contact tracing if needed).
- All buses will be cleaned and sanitized after use.
- When weather permits the windows will be open on the bus to increase ventilation and outdoor air movement.

COVID-19 GUIDE FOR SYMPTOMATIC INDIVIDUALS

2 OF THE FOLLOWING

- FEVER
- HEADACHE
- BODY ACHES
- CHILLS
- SORE THROAT
- VOMITING
- DIARRHEA

1 OF THE FOLLOWING

- NEW COUGH
- SHORTNESS OF BREATH
- DIFFICULTY BREATHING
- LOSS OF TASTE/SMELL

AND/OR



SEND TO NURSE FOR EVALUATION



WHEN CAN I RETURN TO SCHOOL?



POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST

MAY RETURN AFTER 10 DAYS

AND

AT LEAST 24 HOURS NO FEVER
WITHOUT TAKING MEDICINE

AND

SYMPTOMS HAVE IMPROVED

NO COVID-19 TEST DONE

MAY RETURN AFTER 10 DAYS

AND

AT LEAST 24 HOURS NO FEVER
WITHOUT TAKING MEDICINE

AND

SYMPTOMS HAVE IMPROVED

OR

DOCTOR'S NOTE INDICATING
ALTERNATIVE DIAGNOSIS

NEGATIVE COVID-19 TEST

AT LEAST 24 HOURS NO FEVER
WITHOUT TAKING MEDICINE

AND

RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS HAVE
IMPROVED

Guidelines for Quarantine After School Exposure

Masking for all students and staff regardless of vaccination status is recommended by ODH and the Erie County Health Department. EHOVE students & staff have the option to wear their own school appropriate face covering.

Quarantine guidelines for close contact with positive case of COVID-19

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Fully vaccinated & without symptoms

- ★ May remain in the classroom and participate in extracurricular activities as long as symptom free.
- ★ Recommend wearing a face covering and monitoring for symptoms for 14 days following an exposure.
- ★ May discontinue recommended masking if a negative result is obtained after day 3 of exposure and the individual is asymptomatic
- ★ At-home tests cannot be used to reduce quarantine per Erie County Health Department.

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Unvaccinated & without symptoms

- ★ If individual is identified as a close contact of a positive case, they will quarantine for 10 days.

★★ If at any point during the quarantine period symptoms develop, parents/staff are asked to notify EHOVE Career Center and their healthcare provider for follow-up guidance so that a timely return to campus can be achieved. ★★