

# Return to School 6.0

## Introduction and Overview

We are excited and optimistic about the start of this new school ministry year. We strongly believe in God's blessing and protection as we begin this year together. What has not changed since PCA's inception is our commitment to growing followers of Jesus, academic excellence, and the health of our students. We are thankful for your patience and grace as we navigate through these challenging times. The purpose of this document is to clearly communicate the current protocols we will be following for the 2021/22 school year.

It is our intent to follow requirements from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Wayne County Health Department and Michigan High School Athletic Association. (Note: if conflict between these organization exist, authority is in the order stated in prior sentence)

## Significant Changes to PCA protocols from last year:

- The wearing of masks will follow Wayne County's latest emergency order. Follow this link for specifics [Wayne County Emergency Public Health Order for Pre-K-12-Schools-Mask-Mandate -- CLICK HERE](#). This mandate applies to students, staff and visitors on PCA property. Additionally, staff and students are required to comply with the latest and evolving MDHSS requirements related to students and staff being transported on a bus.

## Additional Actions Not Required by MDHHS / MHSAA that we will be Continuing this Year to Protect the Health of Your Student:

- We are praying for our students, staff and their families daily. We encourage you to do the same
- Parents are **required** to assess their student(s) health each morning prior to arriving at school including checking the student's temperature before dropping your child off for school
- Both in person and video options will be offered for Parent / Teacher conferences
- Purchased lunch items will be provided with single-use containers and utensils.
- Ionizing fans will continue to be used improve air quality in each of the classrooms.
- Touchless faucets and bottle filler stations have been installed throughout the church and school.
- Students and teachers should bring their own, labeled water bottles for use at our new fillable drinking stations.
- All classrooms are equipped with hand sanitizers, Clorox wipes, disposable masks for emergencies, paper towels, tissues, etc.
- All Food Services staff will be in compliance with state health and safety requirements.
- Students may only touch or handle their own learning materials (e.g., textbooks, pens).
- Students are only permitted to use their own locker and personal belongings such as backpacks, etc.
- P.E. classes will be held outside as much as possible.
- The teacher will minimize the sharing of equipment and provide individual equipment when possible.
- Students must refrain from sharing their technology devices with classmates and should not touch each other's screens, keyboards, STEM class manipulatives, etc.

- Upon entering the classroom, gymnasium, auditorium, lunchroom, etc. students will sanitize their hands.
- All Athletic Guidance will follow the protocols set forth by MHSAA and the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (MIAC).
- All students and staff are **required** to follow our existing illness Policies, See Page 71, Section 8.1.10 and 8.1.11 of [Secondary Handbook -- Click Here](#), or See Page 74, Section 10.3 of the [Elementary Handbook -- Click Here](#)
- We will have a limited Streaming Offering for extended Illnesses. This option of live streaming is limited to grades 7-12 and will be available for two-week periods only and will require (per policy) a written note from the student's primary care provider. Elementary classroom will provide packets of work with some live streaming included as needed for whole group instruction.
- Students or Staff who receive a positive COVID test result or other communicable diseases are **required** to report this test result to the school office within 12 hours

## **INTERMITTENT CLOSURES**

There may be scenarios where we have a brief period of intermittent closures. If we need to have a brief, online learning experience, we commit to provide every student with an exceptional education. The very day following any short-term closure, we will transition to Distance Learning Program. We have continued to develop a best practices distance learning plan that we believe will deliver the highest quality experience possible. Plymouth Christian was a leader in online education last spring, and we are thankful for the foresight of our team. Our students, quite literally, didn't miss a day.

## **SOCIAL DISTANCING**

It is our intent to achieve social distancing (at least 3 foot is best) within the school buildings, buses and outside where possible. Given our facilities and the nature of the broad range of school activities, achieving 3 foot distancing may not always be possible including but not limited to athletics where we will follow MHSSA requirements.

## **CAMPUS OPERATIONS**

- **FAMILY/STUDENT HANDBOOK**
- PCA's Current Family/Student Handbook contains important policies and procedures that still apply to every PCA family during this period of adjusted procedures. Please click the following links to view:
  - [Elementary Handbook -- Click Here](#)
  - [Secondary Handbook -- Click Here](#)

## **Enforcement**

- **The policies described above will be enforced including disciplinary actions up to expulsion**

## **BACKGROUND / NATURE OF THIS DOCUMENT**

The policies and procedures above are an addendum to our Parent Handbooks intended to mitigate, not eliminate, risk related to health and safety. No single action or set of actions will completely eliminate the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission, but implementation of several coordinated interventions and layered protection can greatly reduce that risk.

Due to the ever-changing situation regarding COVID-19 protocols, this document and all policies are subject to change. Plymouth Christian Academy has implemented enhanced sanitation measures on its campus and has put in place health and safety protocols to help reduce the spread of COVID-19, which health and safety protocols may be updated at any time. However, PCA cannot promise that even with the steps the school is taking, that your child will not be exposed to or infected by COVID-19. An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any place where people are present.

As a parent of a PCA student, you agree that you will help your child understand and cooperate in complying with the health and safety protocols, rules, and precautions implemented by PCA. You understand that students who do not adhere to all health and safety protocols, rules, or precautions may be subject to immediate removal from PCA's campus.