



EAGLE HILL SCHOOL

Dear Eagle Hill Community,

While 2020 has proven to be suboptimal to put it kindly, the dissemination of the COVID-19 vaccine brings us hope for a better year in 2021 and beyond.

Make no mistake: the realization of our collective goals and priorities continues to be a very serious and challenging endeavor. At the same time, it is an endeavor more than worth pursuing, as your children need and deserve the very best of our faculty and our school. We are and must remain in this together.

Below is a list of questions and answers generated over the last several months. We are sharing them more widely in the interest of facilitating further communication.

Frequently Asked Questions

Does EHS require a specific type of COVID-19 test prior to returning in January 2021? Yes, a negative PCR test is required through your doctor or reputable testing company.

Will you be providing both in-person and online instruction in the winter/spring? No. Our staffing and scheduling decisions have prioritized in-person instruction starting in September 2020. If at some point during the year we are either unable to provide in-person instruction or choose not to provide in-person instruction due to health and safety concerns, then we will switch the entire learning platform to remote learning until we can resume in-person instruction. To provide in-person and remote learning simultaneously, especially over eleven time zones, would diminish the learning and experience for everyone.

What happens if I am unable to arrive by January 10, 2021? It is extremely important that all students arrive on campus by January 10 so we can begin the process of securing the campus and creating houses that allow for fewer restrictions and greater academic and social autonomy. Students with documented reasons for a late arrival will be allowed to join their scheduled classes via Google Meet, but we will not be able to make accommodations for time changes or course schedules. This experience will feel very different than when our entire student body was engaged in remote learning given that instruction will necessarily be geared toward the students physically present in class. And, importantly, students who cannot arrive by January 10 will only be permitted reentry to campus at the sooner of the date on which the closed campus restriction is lifted or the next regularly scheduled return from a vacation.

Can my child come home on weekends, or can I come to visit him or her on campus? It is extremely important that we maintain a closed campus in order to dramatically increase the likelihood that we have and can sustain a COVID-19-free campus. When we reach that level of confidence, we will assess the possibility and advisability of loosening weekend and visitation restrictions. This will be done in conjunction

with an evaluation of local, state, and national conditions. Please note that students who depart campus while the closed campus restriction remains in place will only be permitted reentry to campus at the sooner of the date on which the closed campus restriction is lifted or the next regularly scheduled return from a vacation.

Will there be consideration for some type of financial refund if learning goes online for an extended period of time? Despite not contractually needing to do so, the board of trustees authorized a modest refund at the conclusion of the 2019–20 academic year given the unforeseen nature of the circumstances. The board of trustees will not make a preemptive determination about the possibility of a refund if the school needs to transition online for an extended portion of the 2019–20 academic year.

Is any type of face covering acceptable? No. Not all face coverings are equal. All students and faculty will be required to wear a mask according to the guidelines set forth in the Health and Safety Chart. Please note that bandanas, neck gaiters, and other mask alternatives are not acceptable. Additionally, masks containing politically or socially charged messages, or inappropriate messages currently prohibited as part of the dress code, will not be permitted. Please review the CDC recommendations to determine the best mask for your child.

Will there be rapid COVID-19 testing for students and faculty on campus after the school year begins? Yes. In partnership with the Mayo Clinic, we will have several hundred PCR tests on campus and expect results back within twenty four to thirty six hours. Additionally, we have on site the ability to perform rapid antigen testing with results within fifteen minutes.

Will the school be employing any contact tracing strategies? Yes. Dr. Miller has taken the courses to be prepared to conduct our contact tracing, and we will utilize contact tracing for any known or suspected cases.

Will parents be responsible for the cost of testing? Yes and no. Parents will be responsible for the cost of testing prior to their child’s arrival. Eagle Hill School will assume the cost of the campus-wide testing that will occur within ten days of the students’ arrival, as well as for any spot testing of houses to continue to monitor the health and safety of the community. All other tests needed in response to student symptoms or contact tracing will be the responsibility of the individual family.

Will students be quarantined while waiting for COVID-19 test results? If a student is tested as a result of symptoms or as a result of contact tracing, then he or she will be quarantined under the supervision of a nurse until the test results are known, and the required quarantine period is complete. Students in quarantine, but otherwise well, may participate in school via remote learning.

What happens if a student tests positive for COVID-19? If a student tests positive for COVID-19, he or she will be placed in isolation from all other students and student living quarters. Isolated students will be placed under the supervision of a member of the faculty until their parents or emergency contact arrive to campus to provide coverage and care. Students may rejoin on-campus learning subject to reentry protocols. In the interim, students at home due to having contracted COVID-19 may join classes via remote learning if they feel well enough to do so.

Will parents be informed if a faculty member or student other than their own child has contracted COVID-19? Yes. As part of our communication protocol, parents will be made aware if a student or member of the faculty has contracted COVID-19. Of course, the student or faculty member will remain anonymous for privacy purposes. Parents will be individually notified if contact tracing then requires their child to be tested.

How does instruction occur if a faculty member is quarantined or sick? Faculty who are quarantined will teach remotely and a second member of the faculty will be in the classroom to facilitate instruction and support. If a faculty member is sick for a lengthy period, then his or her classes will be taught by another member of the faculty until he or she is able to return.

How will you communicate a change in COVID-19 policy or procedures? A phased Health and Safety Chart will be posted on the Eagle Hill website at all times. Material changes to the school’s Health and Safety Chart will be communicated through an all-school communication.