



July 26, 2021

Dear Herron and Riverside High School Families,

We are eager for the start of school in just over two weeks! As we look forward to the 2021-2022 school year, please find outlined below our plans for instruction and COVID-19 health and safety protocols.

The ICS COVID-19 protocols were created based on updated guidance from the Marion County Public Health Department, the Indiana State Health Department, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *These protocols are subject to change based on new guidance from the health departments/organizations listed above.*

Vaccination Clinic for 12 and Older: THIS Saturday, July 31, 8:30 - 11:30 AM at Riverside High School, 3010 N. White River Parkway East Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46208

In working with our partners to determine these plans, and as we are so eager to return to normal school as quickly as possible, we have been reminded of the urgent need for our communities to be fully vaccinated in order to protect ourselves and others.

To support our community's vaccination efforts, we will be hosting a Vaccine Clinic in partnership with Eskenazi Health at Riverside High School on Saturday, July 31, from 8:30 - 11:30 AM. Any individuals 12 years of age and older can receive their first Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. Individuals under 18 will need a parent or guardian with them. While pre-registration is not required, if you or family members plan to attend, please complete the form at <https://tinyurl.com/ICSVaccineClinic> so that Eskenazi can prepare for the appropriate number of vaccines and personnel. If you have any questions about the vaccine or the vaccine process, you are encouraged to reach out to Aimee Carroll, Nurse Practitioner, at acarroll@herronhighschool.org.

In-Person Learning

Both Herron and Riverside High Schools will offer exclusively 100% in-person learning, five days a week, for all students for the 2021-2022 school year. A virtual option will not be offered at this time. The weekly schedule will be as follows:

- Mondays-Thursdays, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- Fridays, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Mask Wearing

As is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and other leading experts, to begin



the school year, all students, faculty, and staff at all Indianapolis Classical Schools (including Herron, Riverside, and Herron Preparatory Academy) will wear masks at all times while indoors on campus except while eating and drinking, regardless of vaccination status. The only exception will be for the occasional lowering of a mask by a *fully vaccinated teacher* for important instructional delivery. In this instance, the teacher must be at least 6 ft. from any other individual. Soon, there will be a process to voluntarily submit proof of completed COVID-19 vaccinations for staff, faculty, and students. We plan to re-evaluate mask-wearing policies at Labor Day.

As per health department guidelines, student athletes engaging in vigorous physical activity will not be required to wear masks while practicing or competing.

Social Distancing, Contact Tracing, Quarantining

When possible, classrooms will be arranged to accommodate at least three feet of social distancing. Our bell schedule will provide for two waves of passing periods to limit the number of students in the hallways. Bell Schedules for the 2021-2022 school year can be found here: tinyurl.com/ICSBellSchedule21-22

Individuals will be considered close contacts of someone who tests positive for COVID-19 if they are within 3 feet of the individual for 15 minutes over a 24 hour period, regardless of whether or not they were wearing a mask. Close contacts will need to quarantine for 10 days from the date of exposure unless they can provide verification of completed vaccine status (at least two weeks after second shot for Pfizer and Moderna vaccines or at least two weeks after single Johnson and Johnson vaccine).

Students who are not able to attend school in-person due to quarantine will have their attendance coded and excused and will be expected to access course materials via Google Classroom.

Self-Screening and Symptomatic Individuals

Before arriving to school, all students, faculty, and staff must self-screen each morning for COVID-19 symptoms including:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea



Any individual exhibiting any of these symptoms should isolate and consult with a medical professional and reach out to contacttracing@herronhighschool.org or contacttracing@riversidehighschool.org or by calling 317-231-0010 to report attendance and determine next steps. In order to return to school, individuals have three options:

- Provide proof of alternate diagnosis from a medical provider and symptom-free
- Provide proof of negative COVID-19 test and be symptom-free
- If not pursuing alternate diagnosis or COVID-19 testing, 10 days of isolation and symptoms resolved with fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication.

Before/After School Supervision and Office Hours

While limited early arrival supervision will still be offered, we again ask families to plan to drop students off no earlier than 8:30 AM Mondays - Thursdays and 9:30 AM on Fridays and to pick-up by 4:15 PM if at all possible to prevent large-group gatherings before and after school unless your student is attending Office Hours. Students arriving after 8:30 AM will be directed to their Advisory classroom for supervision until 9:00 AM when Advisory begins.

Individual teacher Office Hours will take place from 8:00 - 8:45 AM and 4:15 - 5:00 PM in designated classrooms. A full Office Hour schedule will be published at the start of school, and Office Hours will begin the week of 8/16.

If your student will need early arrival supervision from 7:30 - 8:30 AM Mondays-Thursdays or 7:30-9:30 AM Fridays or from 4:15 - 5:00 PM Monday-Friday, please look for an online registration form in the coming weeks. Students who are present in early arrival before school or in after school "5th Period" will have designated assigned seats in order to facilitate social distancing and potential contact tracing.

Lockers

Students will receive locker assignments and should plan to visit their locker upon arrival in the morning and upon dismissal and then sparingly during the day so as to decrease congregating in hallways.

Calendar Update: Virtual Asynchronous Days

In order to best address professional development needs for our faculty and staff, three asynchronous virtual learning days have been added to the calendar for the 2021-2022 school year:

Friday 9/3/21

Friday 1/28/22

Friday 3/4/22



On these dates, students will have coursework to complete virtually from home; students should plan for coursework that comprises the length of a normal school day.

Breakfast/Lunch

Again this school year, through a federal program, all students will be able to eat breakfast and lunch for free. However, families will still need to complete the Free and Reduced Lunch enrollment online to determine status for textbook and other fees.

In order to facilitate possible contact tracing, students will have a permanent seat for lunch. Periodically throughout the school year, students will have the opportunity to move lunch seats. While in the cafeteria, students must continue to wear masks except while eating and drinking.

Visitors and Guests

All guests arriving to Student Services must wear a mask. Visitors to any other portions of campus will be by appointment only. Many meetings will be offered to be held virtually via Zoom or phone conference to limit guests in the buildings.

Parent Orientation

Parent/Guardian Orientation is scheduled for Thursday, August 5, from 6:00 - 8:00 PM at both campuses. Stay tuned for information from your Head of School about location.

Schedule Pick-Up: Tuesday, 8/10/21, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

All students should plan to pick up their schedules and locker assignments and get their school picture taken on Tuesday, August 10, between 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Herron students will report to the Harrison Center for the Arts at 16th and Delaware, and Riverside Students will report to the Gym at Riverside. Students do NOT need to be in uniform for school pictures.

First Day of School: Wednesday, 8/11/21, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

9th-11th grade students will report to campus for their first day of school and will follow a "C day" schedule, visiting each of their classes and Advisory.

12th grade students will be off campus at a special Senior Retreat. More information including transportation options for seniors for the retreat is forthcoming.

Uniform Update

Please note a few updates to our uniform policy for the 2021-2022 school year:

- This year we return to requiring that pants and shorts have the "R" or "H" logo and be from SchoolBelles at 6315 N Keystone Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46220.
- Students no longer need to wear a white crew neck undershirt under their black (HHS), navy (RHS), or white (either) polo shirts. If a student does choose to wear an undershirt, it must be white, but one is not required.



- While pants, shorts, and skirts should all be worn at the waist, students will no longer be required to tuck in their polo shirts and therefore belts are also not required. However, if pants/shorts do not fit in a way to be worn at the waist, then a belt will be provided.

Herron Preparatory Academy Update

Congratulations to the faculty, staff, and families of our elementary school which will be opening this fall with Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades! While Herron Prep is scheduled to be located on Herron's campus in modular units for the first two years, there are delays in the installation process. As a result, Herron Preparatory will launch their year in the lower level at Riverside High School! They will transition to their modular units once installed. We are eager for these newest ICS families to see the great things happening on each of our campuses this semester.

Thank you for your trust and support as we prepare for this exciting year together. Please reach out with questions.

Sincerely,

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