Dear Hawks Families:

HSAC will stay committed to following all the guidelines from the CDC and the local health department. We are asking that you continue to speak with your scholar about the importance of wearing their mask properly while in the building and on the bus.

While the city has seen a decrease in COVID-19, it is now experiencing an increase in the Delta Variant, especially among unvaccinated people. HSAC’s goal is to keep scholars and staff safe, and provide high-quality, in-person instruction in an effort to minimize the impact of COVID-19 on education. To accomplish this goal, preventative measures were reinstated. All staff, scholars, and visitors to our building will be required to wear a mask. Other COVID-19 protocols will remain in place throughout the school year.

The health and safety of staff and scholars remains HSAC’s top priority. If any changes must be made to these guidelines throughout the school year, parents will be notified immediately.

**MASK GUIDELINES**

- Consistent and correct mask use is needed to protect everyone. This means the mouth and nose are covered at all times.
- Masks will be required for all staff and scholars while indoors, regardless of vaccination status.
- Masks will not be required while outdoors as long as a safe distance can be maintained.
- Due to a federal mandate, staff and scholars of all ages are required to wear masks at all times when on school buses.

**COVID-19 VACCINES**

- COVID-19 vaccines will not be required.
QUARANTINE GUIDELINES

HSAC will follow the quarantine guidelines for K-12 schools set forth by the Ohio Department of Health and the Cincinnati Department of Health. HSAC will work with the Cincinnati Department of Health for all contact tracing.

If a scholar develops symptoms of COVID-19, parents are asked to keep their scholar home and have the scholar tested. Parents should notify the school of a confirmed case of COVID-19 as soon as possible.

If contact tracing determines scholars were exposed to someone with COVID-19, parents of the exposed students will be notified immediately. Whether or not a scholar must quarantine is dependent upon many factors, including consistency of mask-wearing, vaccines, and distance between scholars/staff. Parents will be informed of the need to quarantine or to just monitor symptoms based on the guidance from the health department.

OTHER PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

- HSAC will continue to thoroughly clean the building and sanitize high-touch surfaces. We have also added an air purification system to bring in fresh air into the building.
- HSAC will follow guidance on social distancing as much as possible.
- Proper and frequent hand washing will continue to be encouraged.
- Scholars will continue to use water bottle filling stations rather than drinking fountains.
- Visitors in the building will continue to be limited to certain organizations approved by the district to provide support to students, such as Neighborhood School Center partner agencies.
- Parents and guardians will not be permitted to visit classrooms, but can still visit the main office as long as masks are worn.

Thank you for your adherence to these guidelines. We look forward to a successful school year for all scholars and staff!