



2021-2022  
Preparedness  
and Response Plan

Unity Christian High School  
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# Preparedness Plan

## **Guidance from State and National Organizations**

Because COVID positivity numbers vary around the country, the information shared has been issued as guidance and not requirements. Both MDHHS and the CDC have “emphasized the need for localities to monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies.”

Unity plans to emphasize three main protocols: (1) keeping students home when they are sick or displaying symptoms, (2) personal hygiene protocols, and (3) routine cleaning to maintain healthy facilities. These three areas, as well as more detailed protocols in other areas, are shared below:

### **I. Keeping Students Home When Sick**

Students must remain home if exhibiting COVID-19 or other illness symptoms. As is always the case – but particularly in the current health situation – it is important that parents not send sick children to school. We are asking parents to partner with us in reviewing their children’s health at home before sending them to school.

### **II. Personal Hygiene**

#### **A. Handwashing / Hand Sanitizer**

- Handwashing in sinks or with hand sanitizer will be done with frequency for all students and staff members throughout the day.
- Students will be taught the importance of handwashing.

#### **B. Physical Distancing**

- All 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> classrooms within Unity will be set up for feasible physical distancing while also creating an effective learning environment for students. The general guideline being used is three feet between each student.
- Unity has established practices that minimize large-scale congestion whenever possible.

### **III. Facial Coverings**

For students in grades 9-12, mask wearing is recommended by the health department, but the decision for mask-wearing will be ultimately left to students and to staff.

Unity will create a learning environment at school where students are respecting the choices of each family regarding masks and where students respect one another.

#### **IV. Routine Cleaning to Maintain Healthy Facilities**

Unity installed additional hand sanitizer stations throughout hallways and hand sanitizer is available in each classroom. In addition, we have consistently used approved cleaning products, per recommendations, to clean and disinfect surfaces. Two key cleaning and disinfecting protocols that will be done daily are as follows:

- High-touch surfaces (i.e. door knobs and desktops) will be sanitized each day.
- Regular disinfecting will occur daily in each classroom.

#### **V. Vaccinations for COVID-19**

As has been previously communicated regarding vaccines for COVID, Unity believes that the decision to get a COVID vaccination is a family decision. The school will not require COVID vaccinations for attendance at school or for participation in school-related events.

#### **VI. Ventilation**

With the recent building of our school, the ventilation/air quality system continuously exchanges air within all areas of school. This exchange of air provides a safe environment for students.

#### **VII. Athletics**

At this time, athletics are under no special circumstances or restrictions. We will utilize the lessons learned from the past year to ensure the safety of athletes.

#### **VIII. Quarantines of Close Contacts**

The Ottawa County Health Department will be contacting any student who has been in close contact to a positive COVID-19 case in our school. A close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of the positive individual for 15 minutes or more when one or both are not wearing a mask.

#### **IX. Off Campus Learning Plans**

We recognize that we still need to be prepared for off campus learning should we have an outbreak on campus and it is determined, in conjunction with the Ottawa County Health Department, that we need to move students off campus for a time.

Unity will take opportunities during the school year to familiarize students with Microsoft 365 and the Teams Application. This will be necessary both to be prepared and because we anticipate that some of our students may be off campus at various times during the school year due to health concerns for the students themselves and/or a family member.