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**HEALTHY  
MADEIRA**

**A Guide  
to Reopening the  
Madeira City School  
District for the  
2021-2022 School  
Year**

**Madeira City Schools  
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**[www.madeiracityschools.org](http://www.madeiracityschools.org)**





## **To Our Madeira Students, Families, Staff, and Community Members;**

It was a year ago that we were finalizing a restart plan and preparing for a school year like none other. Together, we took bold steps to begin our school year attending school in-person five days a week not knowing the outcome. We kept our My Madeira Promise and created the best possible scenario for our students and staff in the face of uncertainty with a common goal to be in school. We learned that each day was special as we took it one day at a time. And just last May, we celebrated the end of a school year and all that we accomplished together - learning together, competing in sports together, eating lunch together, playing music together, singing together, having recess together and so much more. If there was one lesson I learned as your Superintendent in this past school year, it was that we can do hard things and are better as a Madeira community when we respect the differences of opinions and approaches to the pandemic that each family has made since March 2020. Each family has had to choose and respond in ways that were right for their family and their student. As we have continued to live and learn, COVID-19 is unpredictable and our willingness to remain flexible and responsive to follow our safety protocols, monitor our local health status, and track our student absences and quarantines have helped us to stay in school.

As we look to the coming school year, we are not only challenged as educators to focus on how best to help students learn, but school districts all across Ohio have also been tasked with making decisions about how to interpret the recommendations of public health officials that were once required health mandates. Thank you to the many parents and community members who have shared their perspectives both personally and professionally and that represent all sides of how best to start our school year. Your thoughts have been heard and are respected. Understanding that we must remain flexible and responsive to our current data, the following sections detail the anticipated protocols that Madeira will be utilizing for the 2021-2022 school year based on the recommendations and requirements from the HCPH, ODH, and the CDC.

As we look to a new school year, we wanted to provide you an update as to how we will approach the 2021-2022 school year.

Thanks for your patience and willingness to partner with us to continue to make Madeira a great place for kids.

*Kenji Matsudo*  
Superintendent, Madeira City Schools

## **Healthy Madeira Guiding Principles**

- Care and well-being of students and staff is important.
- Prioritizing student learning and social-emotional health.
- Ensuring effective teaching and learning.
- Operating efficiently, effectively, and responsibly.

## **Healthy Madeira Fundamental Assumptions**

- Madeira City Schools must create flexible and responsive plans to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff.
- School health and safety requirements must be followed as set forth by the Ohio Department of Health and the Hamilton County Health Department.
- Guidance and guidelines will be adjusted throughout the school year.
- Students, parents, and staff may need to be ready to adjust with minimal advance notice as a result of continued contact tracing or changing conditions.
- The district will continue to monitor our health status and make informed decisions based on our local data and “lived experience” from the 2020-2021 school year.
- We are better together when we respect differences of opinions, show empathy for those who may become ill, and promise to do our best amidst difficult circumstances.

## **Five Lessons Learned from 2020-2021 & our “Lived Experience”**

**TOGETHER** .... we had an amazing 2020-2021 school year of learning in-person and online learning five days a week!

**TOGETHER** .... we learned how to track our health data and make locally informed decisions based on our student and staff health status.

**TOGETHER** .... we conducted school within our classrooms (and at home), ate lunch together, played sports together, and shared our passion for music and the arts together without school-wide spread.

**TOGETHER** .... we learned that the rewards of our students being together outweighed any potential health / social emotional concerns in staying apart.

**TOGETHER** .... we kept our My Madeira Promise to ourselves and our neighbors and friends.

## **Madeira HealthWatch Assessment Team**

- Membership includes: Dr. Ted Folger, PhD, MS Epidemiology; Dr. Kristen DeMarco, MD Pediatrician; Tim Hemler, Data Analytics; District leadership; Board of Education Representative; and Local Public Health Consultation.
- Weekly reviews of county-wide 7-day trends as well as our local positive cases, student absences, and quarantine numbers are analyzed to determine shifts in safety protocols or learning adjustments.

# MADEIRA CITY SCHOOLS HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS 2021-2022



## Facial Coverings/Face Masks

Students and staff in Grade PK-6 are **required** to wear masks while indoors. Staff who are vaccinated may, for instructional purposes, remove their masks when socially distanced. Mask breaks will be provided similar to last year. Per ODH and HCPH, it is **strongly recommended** that students and staff in grades 7-12 wear masks while indoors. Per CDC, all students on school buses are **required** to wear masks.



## Hand Washing

Students and staff are expected to practice personal health hygiene including appropriately covering a cough and frequently washing their hands and using hand sanitizer.



## Seating Charts

Seating charts will be required on buses and in the classrooms. Siblings are seated together on buses. Seating charts assist with the quarantine process required by Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH).



## Social Distance

Students and staff will be three feet apart when practical.



## Ventilation

Ventilation settings will continue to circulate outside air and recently installed HVAC units at MHS will improve filtration and circulation. Outdoor classroom spaces will continue to be used.



## Cleaning

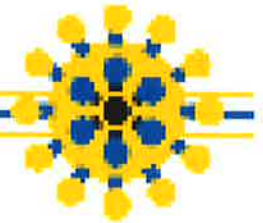
Cleaning protocols will continue with regular wiping down of high-touch areas in school including cafeterias, restrooms, and buses.



## Visitors

Parents and caregivers will be limited during the school day.

## VACCINATIONS & COVID-19 PROTOCOL



- Vaccinations are encouraged as an effective way to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Vaccines are not required and vaccination status will be voluntary as needed for contact tracing.
- Madeira City Schools does not order quarantines or isolations, but we are **required** by Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH) to report and assist HCPH in contact tracing.
- Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 will be **required** to self-isolate at home for 10 days. Unvaccinated students who are wearing a facial covering that are considered close contacts will not need to quarantine. Vaccinated students and staff who are close contacts to a positive case will not be required to quarantine. All close contacts will be required to wear a mask and monitor symptoms post exposure. Assignments will be available on Schoology or classes may be available online through Zoom during the quarantine period. The option to Zoom will only be utilized for verified health department quarantines. Younger grades may use Google Classroom.

**Parents should monitor their student for signs or symptoms of COVID-19 and do a wellness check prior to sending their child to school. Students who are ill, have a fever or are feeling sick should not be sent to school.**