



## **Return To School Changes to Expect**

Marquette Catholic High School will be welcoming our students and staff back to campus and on schedule this fall. Below is a list of what you can expect at that time. There is no time frame set to any of the items below, because there is no way of predicting the course of COVID-19 at this time. COVID-19 is an ever-evolving and changing situation, therefore, this information will be reviewed and updated as necessary to be in accordance with the most appropriate information being provided. With every change made, communication will be made to our staff, students, families, and community. Any changes that occur over the summer will be shared prior to the return to school. These changes are based on the IN-CLASS Document provided by the Superintendent of Schools for Indiana, and the Indiana Department of Education, in accordance with the guidelines for the Catholic Diocese of Gary.

### **1. Prevention**

- The priority for preventing the spread of disease in the school setting is to insist that sick employees and students stay home. Additionally, students and employees should remain home if someone in the household has COVID-19 symptoms or is being tested for COVID-19. Please inform Jan Wagner in the main office immediately if this is the case: [jwagner@marquette-hs.org](mailto:jwagner@marquette-hs.org)
- For asymptomatic persons, the three most important mitigation strategies include reasonable social distancing, handwashing and sanitizing, and face coverings.
- Hand washing/sanitizing and avoiding touching your face, eyes, nose, or mouth are also important steps a person can take to avoid becoming sick or spreading germs to others.

### **2. Screening**

- MQTT students and staff should self-screen. Please see the below for information regarding the symptoms of COVID-19. Students and employees exhibiting symptoms are prohibited from coming to school, and if they do come to school, will be sent home immediately.
- Students or staff who test positive for COVID-19, please make the main office aware and follow the guidelines provided below before returning to school.
- Attendance will be handled on a case-by-case basis to ensure the safety and health of our students and staff.

### **Symptoms Impacting Consideration for Exclusion from School**

The following are COVID-19 related symptoms:

- A fever of 100.4° F or greater
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills

- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

Students and employees should be excluded from school if they test positive for COVID-19 or exhibit one or more of the symptoms of COVID-19 based on [CDC Guidance](#) that is not otherwise explained.

### **Return to School After Exclusion**

Once a student or employee is excluded from the school environment, they may return if they satisfy the recommendations of the CDC. Currently those guidelines are:

#### ***Untested***

Persons who have not received a test proving or disproving the presence of COVID-19 but experience symptoms may return if the following four conditions are met:

- They have not had a fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers); and
- Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved); and
- At least 10 calendar days have passed since your symptoms first appeared.
- The state [website](#) has a list of over 200 testing facilities, their location, and hours of operation. This list is updated frequently.

#### ***Tested Positive- Symptomatic***

Persons who experienced symptoms and have been tested for COVID-19 may return to school if the following conditions are met:

- The individual no longer has a fever (without the use medicine that reduces fevers); and
- Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved); and
- At least 10 calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared; or
- The individual has received two negative tests at least 24 hours apart.

#### ***Tested Positive- Asymptomatic***

Persons who have not had symptoms but test positive for COVID-19 may return when they have gone 10 calendar days past their test without symptoms and have been preferably released by a healthcare provider. Students may also return if they are approved to do so in writing by the student's health care provider.

### **Sanitizing**

- Every room and office at the school will have a sanitizing station.
- Teachers and staff will have sanitizing protocol specific to their rooms needs: i.e. science labs, business lab, art
- Everyone is required to sanitize their hands upon entering and leaving the room.
- The iPad and our 1:1 program allows for learning and transactions between students and teachers without the exchanging of materials, papers, etc.
- MQTT has invested in additional, new, and industrial sanitizing equipment.
- Surfaces, entryways, door handles, and fingerprint readers will be sanitized frequently throughout the day.
- Teacher prep and lunch hours will be used to sanitize rooms during the day.
- The Scholl Center will be sanitized in between lunches and after the final lunch of the day.

### Face Coverings

- In accordance with the Indiana Governor's Office, students and staff are required to wear masks.
- MQTT face coverings must be purchased through City Stitches, or in the main office.
- Students who do not show up to school with the proper face mask, will be provided one from the main office and their FACTS account will be charged.

### Water Fountains/Facilities

- Water fountains on campus have been replaced to allow for bottle refill with filtered water - drinking directly from the spout is prohibited.
- Students will be allowed to access the bathroom facilities as they need

### Lunch Room & Snack Shack/Deli Service

- The lunch room will have seating options to suit responsible social distancing
- Credit/debit card only - no cash transactions
- No student workers
- All items in the Deli will be packaged in bags or boxes with all necessary utensils inside. No self serve. Partitions will be provided.
- The Snack Shack will include only pre-packaged items - no hotdogs, popcorn, pretzels, etc.
- Snack Shack & Deli lines will be marked to accommodate appropriate social distancing. Masks must be worn while in line for Snack Shack/Deli

### In The Classroom

- Students will have assigned seats in every class
- There will be no passes out of study hall
- Masks do not need to be worn in class, but will be suggested in situations where there cannot be reasonable social distancing, the teacher will advise each class at the beginning of the semester of this requirement.

### Access to Campus

- Students will report to their first hour class immediately upon arrival to school. There will be no gathering in the school center cafeteria, business lab in the morning.
- The entrance by the main office will be used as an entry way only, while the doors by the auditorium will be used as exit only.
- There will be no visitors, outside of necessary personnel, during the school day.
- Email remains our #1 means of communication, phone calls and Zoom calls can be used in addition when necessary.

- Families who are picking up a student during the day will need to sign them out by calling the main office.
- There will be no locker room, weightroom, or gym access to any student other than those in season.
- The Scholl Center Business Lab will remain open after school to students until 5pm. Students will be assigned a seat.

#### Transportation

- Students will have assigned seating on the bus and will need to wear a mask.
- Sanitizing will be provided upon entry and exit of the bus.
- Each bus will be completely sanitized before and after each use.

#### Athletics

- Director of Athletics Katie Collignon will be providing guidelines and updates to athletic coaches, student-athletes, and families in accordance with the IHSAA.

#### Events On and Off Campus

- There will be no off campus field trips, service trips, or retreats.
- For scheduled masses, MQTT will follow the guidelines provided by St. Mary's Parish.
- Scheduled events such as plays, performances, banquets, etc. will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
- Prior to an event there will be guidelines and instructions sent and shared with parents, students, and staff. This is an ever evolving situation, so we want to be sure to provide our students with the best possible opportunities, based on the most updated information and guidance.