

Dear New Branches Community,

We are emailing with updated communication regarding our health and safety efforts for summer school. As many of you heard on Thursday, June 17, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) rescinded emergency orders requiring face masks. As of Tuesday, June 22, masks will no longer be required, regardless of vaccination status, and most all other restrictions have been lifted.

It is important to continue to follow protocols that keep us safe, including staying home if you are sick, disinfecting spaces, daily health screenings, and positive case reporting. Below are the health and safety protocols we are going to continue to implement:

1. **Masking:** Masks are optional. It is important to note that some students and employees may still choose to wear masks even if they are not required to do so, and we support them in this choice.
2. **Screening:** Staff should continue daily CrisisGO check-ins and visitors should be screened before entry.
3. **Cleaning:** We will continue our increased cleaning protocols and procedures in the classrooms and around the school.
4. **Reporting:** Summer School programs must report positive cases of COVID-19 to the local health department within 24 hours.
5. **Contact Tracing:** Schools are required to notify close contacts of their exposure to a positive case after reporting this to the local health department. The local health department will continue to provide guidance on next steps.
6. **Quarantine:** Fully vaccinated people and school close contacts are not required to quarantine. Unvaccinated students and school personnel who are close contacts in an outbreak situation, or who are household contacts of a COVID-19 positive person, must remain out of school during their quarantine period.

Looking to the Fall

Information is still being collected from the state that will give direction on what the fall will look like for schools. As soon as we have this information, we will share it with the school community.

For questions or clarification, please don't hesitate to reach out. Again, thank you for your continued support today and every day!

Sincerely,

Terry Larkin & Kristen Crawford