



EDGEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

2021-2022 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR



Updated: August 27, 2021

We're only two weeks into the new school year and we have our first revisions to our safety plan.

This looks to be another fall of changes and challenges. Thank you for your understanding, patience and feedback. We are doing our best to stay ahead of COVID-19. Please be patient as we work together as a community to maintain a safe environment and remain in-person for the entire school year.

Please review the plan. There are updates on masks, quarantine and testing along with a link to a helpful testing video. If you have questions or comments, the plan includes the information needed to reach me, the Board and the COVID Task Force.

May God be with us, protect and bless us with wisdom, patience, understanding, compassion and good health today and throughout the school year.

President Michael Elliott
Board Chair Marykay Zimbrick
Principal Jerry Zander

May God continue to bless our Edgewood Community

The Administration, Board of Trustees, and COVID-19 Task Force are ever mindful of the **MISSION** Statement of Edgewood High School of the Sacred Heart:

Edgewood, a Catholic high school, educates the whole student for a life of learning, service, and personal responsibility through a rigorous academic curriculum that embraces the Sinsinawa Dominican values of Truth, Compassion, Justice, Community and Partnership.

We remain committed to maintaining a safe learning and working environment for the entire Edgewood community. To do this, we have established the following **GOALS** for the 2021-2022 school year:

1. Protection of the health, safety, and well-being of the entire Edgewood community.
2. Keep Edgewood High School open to in-person learning five days per week.
3. Timely communications with our school community.
4. Decision making will be based on current scientific evidence and research as presented by medical professionals. Current guidance, laws, regulations, and health orders, as applicable, will be part of the decision making process.

We are truly grateful and blessed to have a dedicated team working to keep our school safe and open during these pandemic times. Members of the COVID-19 Task Force are: Board Chair Marykay Zimbrick, President Mike Elliott, Principal Jerry Zander, School Nurse Sue Richards R.N., Dr. William Hartman M.D., Dr. David Andes M.D., Dr. Jantina Vonk M.D., and Jane Clark, Board Secretary.

CONTENTS

1. VACCINATIONS
2. MASKS
3. BASIC LOGISTICS AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS
4. PHYSICAL DISTANCING
5. HEALTH SCREENING
6. QUARANTINE, TESTING & CONTACT TRACING
7. SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH
8. EHS RESOURCES

1. VACCINATIONS

Evidence gathered over the last year has provided a framework to facilitate consistent in-person learning that minimizes disease transmission. We know that **the most effective way to prevent transmission in schools is to support our community being vaccinated.** Achieving high levels of COVID-19 vaccination among eligible students (age 12 and older), as well as teachers, staff, and household members, is the most critical strategy to help us safely resume and maintain full operations.

The COVID-19 Task Force **STRONGLY RECOMMENDS** everyone get vaccinated if you have not done so already. Task Force members with medical backgrounds are willing to answer your questions about COVID-19 vaccines and their safety. Please contact **School Nurse Sue Richards, RN** at sue.richards@edgewoodhs.org or **608-257-1023 x 162** for more details.

All students, faculty, and staff of Edgewood High School are **REQUIRED** to submit written proof of full vaccination to School Nurse Sue Richards, RN. If a person becomes fully vaccinated, they should provide proof of full vaccination to Nurse Richards at that time. A person is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the final dose of the vaccine. Failure to provide this information in a timely manner will require students, faculty and staff to follow rules for unvaccinated persons. Records of vaccination status will be maintained by Nurse Richards and will be used solely to enforce our COVID-19 rules for unvaccinated persons and as an element of contact tracing. Failure to comply with the rules for unvaccinated persons will be handled as a disciplinary matter.

Accommodations for unvaccinated persons: ADA accommodations for students will be handled on a case by case basis. ADA accommodation will not include allowing unvaccinated persons to be in school buildings without masking. There will be no virtual options offered for ADA accommodations. If necessary, we will work with the student, their family, and health care provider to set up an independent study option.

2. MASKS

All students, employees, coaches and visitors are required to wear masks at all times when **inside** Edgewood High School, regardless of vaccination status. The Administration reserves the right to require **outside** mask use when they believe it is in the best interests of the school community to do so.

With respect to Athletics:

- All athletes, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear masks when not actively competing, whether indoors or outdoors.
- All unvaccinated coaches and visitors are required to wear masks when outdoors.

Consistent and correct mask use can help to provide protection from COVID-19. Read more at [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

Please make sure your student arrives at school every day with a proper fitting, clean mask that completely covers their nose and mouth. Masks will be provided for those who forget. We have a limited supply of KN95 masks available for those who request them. Mesh and gaiter masks are not allowed.

3. BASIC LOGISTICS AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

Entrances: All students will enter through the Commons entrance doors.

Late Arrivals: Late arrivals or students returning from appointments will enter through the main office doors and check-in before entering the building.

Distancing: When entering and moving around the building, students should be mindful of safe distancing of 3 feet when possible.

Lunch: All students, regardless of vaccination status, will eat in the Commons, Wilke Gym bleachers, or outside in designated space when weather permits. Safe distancing is required in all locations.

Drinking Fountains: Drinking fountains are to be used for filling water bottles only. Please send your student to school with a full water bottle each day.

Hand Hygiene: Students will be reminded of the importance of good hand hygiene as a key mitigation strategy to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the school. Many students find it helpful to carry their own small bottle of sanitizer and package of wipes with them.

Lockers: All students have their own lockers. Lockers should not be shared with other students. It is recommended to wipe your locker down after use.

Bus Use: ALL persons traveling on buses to and from EHS sanctioned events will be required to wear a mask at all times, regardless of vaccination status. No eating will be allowed on busses; masks may be removed briefly to drink water.

Ventilation, Cleaning and Disinfecting: Edgewood High School has improved ventilation to reduce the number of virus particles in the air by upgrading HVAC and air filtration systems throughout the building. We will follow all proper cleaning and disinfecting procedures and protocols daily to sufficiently remove potential viruses that may be on surfaces.

EHS as Guests at Other Schools: If Edgewood students, faculty or staff are invited to other schools or school districts whose COVID-19 rules are more strict than we have at Edgewood, students, faculty and staff will comply with these rules when guests at that school. This policy remains the same as last year, particularly with sports.

Volunteers and Visitors to Edgewood High School:

- The school will limit visitors to those essential to the school's daily operations.
- All visitors/volunteers are recommended to be fully immunized.
- All visitors/volunteers will be required to wear face coverings.

All protocols and procedures will be shared with our EHS families, as implemented, in a timely manner.

4. PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Based on current enrollment numbers, Edgewood will strive to maintain a 3-foot distance between students when possible in the classrooms and other common and open spaces based on current CDC guidance. As per the CDC, when it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, **such as when schools cannot fully reopen while maintaining these distances**, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as vaccination, proper mask wearing, improved ventilation, handwashing, and regular cleaning to help reduce transmission risk. All of these additional mitigation strategies, as well as others, are in place at Edgewood.

New this school year, per CDC, "Students within 3-6 feet of each other in a K-12 classroom setting are not considered to be close contacts if both students were wearing well-fitting masks and other prevention strategies were in place (such as physical distancing and increased ventilation)." Students/Staff considered to be close contacts due to exposures outside of school should follow public health guidance for quarantine.

5. HEALTH SCREENING

All members of our Edgewood community, regardless of vaccination status, have a responsibility to monitor their daily health and stay home or go home if they are ill.

Our school nurse is trained in COVID-19 testing and works closely with DHS on testing and policies.

Daily Home Health Check:

All parents/guardians are expected to monitor their student(s) health on a daily basis and do daily symptom checks prior to sending their student(s) to school.

Individuals with COVID-19 may exhibit a wide range of symptoms such as:

- Fever (temperature of 100.4 and above)
- Cough (new onset or worsening of chronic cough)
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Chills
- Body aches
- Headache
- Runny nose
- New loss of taste and smell
- Other symptoms may include abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea

Not everyone with COVID-19 has all of these symptoms and not everyone exhibits the same degree of these symptoms. People with these symptoms or a combination of these symptoms may have COVID-19. It is important to know that you can still spread/transmit the COVID-19 virus to others even if they have mild or no symptoms.

If a student is ill and will be absent from school, parents/guardians should notify EHS immediately by calling the **Attendance Office at 608-257-1023 x126**. Please leave detailed information regarding respective symptoms for appropriate monitoring. Information will remain confidential.

If a student or staff member becomes symptomatic while at school, families will be notified and we will follow the [CDC Guidance Plan](#).

We reserve the right to require unvaccinated students, employees, and coaches to comply with routine testing for COVID-19 if the Task Force determines it is necessary to accomplish our safety goals. Contact Nurse Sue Richards, RN: sue.richards@edgewoodhs.org or 608-257-1023 x162 with questions.

Virtual learning will NOT be available for students who are staying home sick. Please contact your student(s) counselor to establish a plan.

6. QUARANTINE, TESTING & CONTACT TRACING

QUARANTINE:

Contact Nurse Sue Richards immediately if your student(s) may have been exposed to COVID-19 to determine quarantine, testing and contact tracing: sue.richards@edgewoodhs.org or 608-257-1023 x162.

Quarantine Guidance for Unvaccinated persons:

- If you choose not to test, you must quarantine for 10 days after your last exposure.
 - If you get tested for COVID-19, you must test on day 6 or 7. If your test result is negative, you may return to school and activities. Continue to monitor for symptoms.
 - It is safest, but not mandatory, if you quarantine for 14 days after your last exposure.
- * In all circumstances, you must be symptom free, for 24 hours, prior to returning to school.**

Quarantine Guidance after Travel for Unvaccinated persons:

Regardless of destination out of the area, travel method, or length of stay:

- Unvaccinated persons are required to get a viral test (PCR) 3-5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.
- Even if you test **negative**, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days.
- If your test is **positive**, quarantine for 10 days to protect others from getting infected.

Quarantine Guidance for Vaccinated persons:

Those who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and were in close contact with someone with COVID-19 do not have to quarantine, but should:

- Get tested 3-5 days after an exposure to someone with COVID-19.
- Wear a mask indoors for 14 days after exposure or until a negative test result.

Quarantine Guidance after Travel for Vaccinated persons:

Regardless of destination out of the area, travel method, or length of stay:

- Vaccinated Students/Faculty/Staff do not need to quarantine after travel if they're symptom free.

Virtual learning will NOT be available for students who travel when school is in session.

Please plan your family travel such that your student(s) absence from school is minimal.

EHS Students/Faculty/Staff considered to be close contacts due to exposures outside of school must follow the guidance from [Public Health Madison Dane County](#).

TESTING:

1. ALL employees and students who are NOT fully vaccinated or have NOT yet shared their vaccination status with school nurse Sue Richards will be required to test weekly until further notice. Testing for fully vaccinated individuals is voluntary. Testing schedules, registration information, and other testing information will be shared in our weekly email updates.

2. ALL employees and students, whether vaccinated or not, participating in an overnight school activity (such as out of town co-curriculars or sports competitions) MUST submit to a PCR test prior to leaving for the event. Coaches/school chaperones will coordinate this testing with Nurse Sue. This testing can begin immediately if needed as Nurse Sue is certified to conduct these tests.

NOTE: we will also have in place and available at school rapid testing for students or employees who become symptomatic or have been determined to have been in close contact with someone who tested positive during the school day. Nurse Sue and her nursing staff will provide such testing. Students or employees who become symptomatic outside of the school day or are notified of an exposure at night or on a weekend can access testing through any community sites or at the testing partner noted below.

If EHS Students/Faculty/Staff are experiencing symptoms outside of school, please get tested and contact Nurse Sue immediately with questions and test results. Find [Dane County Testing Sites](#).

CONTACT TRACING:

If needed, contact tracing will be conducted by Nurse Sue on a case-by-case basis. Contact information for each case and close contact information is kept confidential.

7. SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH

Edgewood recognizes that our current learning environment presents new challenges for students and parents/guardians. Our school counselors and faculty are committed to providing individualized care for the social-emotional needs of our students. Our counselors will be actively monitoring the emotional well-being and mental health of our students and coordinating individual support with parents/guardians, along with grade-level appropriate and school-wide communication regarding coping strategies, academic skill building, and enrichment opportunities to stay connected and engaged. Parents/guardians are encouraged to communicate any concerns about their child's social or emotional well being to their student's counselor or a member of the student services team listed below or by emailing:

student.services@edgewoodhs.org

Shannon McDonough, Associate Principal, 608-257-1023 x128,
shannon.mcdonough@edgewoodhs.org

Monica Ladell, Director College & Career Counseling, 608-257-1023 x125,
monica.ladell@edgewoodhs.org

Merry Zander, School Counselor, 608-257-1023 x153, merry.zander@edgewoodhs.org

Sue Richards, School Nurse, 608-257-1023 x162, sue.richards@edgewoodhs.org

Sarah Smith, Student Resource Advisor/Attendance, 608-257-1023 x126, sarah.smith@edgewoodhs.org

8. EDGEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL RESOURCES:

Michael Elliott, Edgewood President: michael.elliott@edgewoodhs.org

Jerry Zander, Edgewood Principal: jerry.zander@edgewoodhs.org

Questions about the **Task Force**'s recommendations or the **Board**'s decisions:
ehsboard@edgewoodhs.org

Questions about vaccines, contact tracing, travel quarantine requirements or other health related matters:
School Nurse Sue Richards, RN: sue.richards@edgewoodhs.org

[Healthy News You Can Use from Nurse Sue
Vaccine Finder](#)

We recognize that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is not static. We reserve the right to add to, modify, and change policies and rules as needed, based on the expertise of our Task Force and other professionals we may consult. We will communicate this information to you as quickly as possible.

