

*A Message from the Superintendent of*

*Hilltop Schools*

---

---

August 2, 2021

To Hilltop Parents/Guardians:

**Protocol for COVID-19**

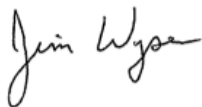
Based on recent guidance from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), the following is a summary of our plan to balance the risk of spreading COVID-19 with the need to provide services at school for the benefit of our students:

1. Since it is our belief that students learn best with their peers and their teacher's physical presence, we will not be offering remote instruction.
2. Especially for anyone who is unvaccinated against COVID-19, ODH strongly recommends the wearing of masks while indoors and whenever outdoors in crowded situations. Since this is currently a recommendation (not a mandate), masks will be optional but should be worn by anyone who is unvaccinated. Parents who want their children to wear masks at school should send them to school wearing a mask.
3. Beginning August 18 and during normal school hours, visitors are limited to those who have an appointment. Parents are to remain in vehicles for student drop-off and pickup.
4. Social distancing will be encouraged for all students, employees, and visitors to the extent possible and practical (within the confines of available space and time). Our goal is to have 3 feet of space between students in classroom settings, at lunchtime, etc.
5. Deep cleaning and sanitation will be conducted throughout our buildings and on buses before students return to school, and throughout the year to maintain sanitary conditions.
6. Visitors who are unvaccinated are expected to wear masks and, when seated for games, performances, etc., should space themselves at least 3 feet from nonfamily members.

To limit the spread of COVID-19, please adhere to the above recommendations and any new directive issued by our Governor, the Ohio Department of Health, the Center for Disease Control, and the Williams County Health Department. Also, please continue to practice **The Three C's** (Clean your hands; Cover your mouth; Contain anyone who is sick in your family to an isolated area) to help slow the spread of COVID-19, as well as other contagious diseases.

I am hopeful we can follow this plan until the pandemic subsides. However, please be aware if COVID-19 cases continue to escalate, new mandates or directives impacting our plan are likely. New requirements that impact our COVID-19 protocol will be communicated to you via phone calls, text messages, emails, and push notifications. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Jim Wyse  
Superintendent