

RSSAA Continuing at School during COVID-19 Plan 2021-22

Plan for April 18, 2022, to the End of the School Year

Everything in this plan is still open to change based on input, governance body decisions, and changes in recommendations and requirements from the State of Michigan and/or Washtenaw Health Department. Any necessary significant changes will come through a full process that includes community input, including from parents.

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A. Overview of Our New Plan:

During the first week after Spring Break (April 18 – 22) we will continue all COVID-19 expectations on both campuses as they were during the week before Spring Break (April 4 – 8). This will provide time for planning, for conversations with students and parents, for a campus open house on April 23, and for any cases of COVID-19 that return with us from Spring Break to develop.

Our goal for the rest of the school year is to do everything we can to ensure that students can be in school, with a minimal need for quarantines, but at the same time to do as much as possible to control the spread of COVID-19 in the school. This means that we will continue our quarantine approach with an emphasis on the test out of quarantine process for the balance of the school year. It is time consuming and demanding of faculty and administrative staff to manage the quarantine and test out of quarantine process but over the past two years it has meant that we have had very low rates of in-school transmission. Therefore, we will be continuing it through the end of the school year. We will be making decisions about how to approach the 2022-23 school year during the summer and share our plans with everyone in August, 2022.

For the period from April 25, 2022, to June 18, 2022, our response to the COVID-19 pandemic will be shaped around the CDC COVID-19 Community Levels. Information on these levels are included in [Appendix 12](#), and is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>

- A. When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level for Washtenaw County is LOW
 - a. Both Campuses will operate in ways that are closer to what we did in fall 2019, before COVID-19, at RSSAA
 - i. Lower School Campus
 - 1. Drop-off and Pick-up will happen through the car lanes that we have used from September to Spring Break.
 - 2. Parents dropping off students late will be asked to park and walk their students to the office through the front door (using the doorbell to gain access), or if the child is in the EC program and the class is outside to deliver the child to the class directly. Parents picking students early will be asked to park and go to the front office to collect their child.
 - 3. Parents will be welcomed into the school buildings outside of drop-off and pick-up times. Masks will be encouraged but not required.
 - 4. During recess and outside time students will be welcome to mix with students from other classes as teachers find developmentally appropriate. For instance, two early childhood classes may play together outside, or fifth and sixth graders.
 - 5. Students will be able to gather with those from other classes inside – in aftercare, in the hallways and common areas, and for any performances, festivals or assemblies.
 - 6. Parents will be welcomed to outdoor and occasional indoor events including community engagement activities, meetings, class events such as plays, concerts, and festivals. When inside, masks will be encouraged but not required.

- ii. High School Campus
 - 1. During free time, students will be welcome to mix with students from other grades inside the building.
 - 2. Students will be asked to eat outside as much as possible, and to no longer eat in their classrooms.
 - 3. Ninth graders will no longer be taught in the Assembly Hall, but instead in our regular classrooms – which have a capacity of 32 students. As we will no longer need to keep the minimum three-foot distance between seated students we will once again fit into the smaller spaces
 - 4. Parents will be welcomed to indoor and outdoor events including community engagement activities, meetings, class events such as plays, concerts and festivals. When inside, masks will be encouraged but not required.
 - 5. All high school combined classes (such as assembly and all school choir), and activities (such as prom and graduation) will take place and we will be watching local COVID numbers to be ready to make adjustments to spacing and location.
- iii. Across both Campuses
 - 1. Masks will be optional on both campuses, and students will be supported with their choice of whether to wear a mask or not.
 - 2. The daily symptom check through Parent Square will not be required or checked daily.
 - 3. Everyone will be asked to monitor themselves and their children for any symptoms and to speak with a coordinator if there is any illness in the family.
 - 4. If there is a school exposure in a classroom, we will implement the same process for informing parents, quarantining the positive student, testing exposed students on days 1, 3 and 5, and the wearing of masks in the classroom for ten calendar days as we have between February Break and Spring Break (full details in [appendix 4](#)).
 - 5. Anyone who is exposed to COVID-19 will continue to be asked to contact their level Coordinator (Sara Deon, Peggy Wilson, or Heather Lomason) to discuss whether they should isolate at home or test regularly for a week.
 - 6. Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 will be asked to isolate at home for a minimum of 5 days, and to return to school either once they have a negative antigen test, or on day eleven after COVID developed.

B. When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level for Washtenaw County is MEDIUM

- a. Both Campuses will operate generally as we have between February Break and Spring Break, with the change that masks will be optional across both campuses
 - i. Lower School Campus
 - 1. Drop-off and Pick-up will happen through the car lanes that we have used from September to Spring Break.

2. During recess and outside time students will remain with their own classes and not mix with students from other classes.
 3. Students will remain with their own classmates for all indoor activities. Activities that mix students from different classes (such as performances) will be held outdoors with students in class groups.
 4. Decisions will be made on an event-by-event basis as we choose whether to move an event to Zoom, to hold it outside, to hold it inside with all present masked, or some other arrangement.
- ii. High School Campus
1. During free time, students will be welcome to mix with students from other grades only outside the building.
 2. Students will return to eating in their classrooms with only their own classmates.
 3. Ninth graders will be taught in the Assembly Hall. This will be needed to once again implement social distancing.
 4. Decisions will be made on an event-by-event basis as we choose whether to move an event to Zoom, to hold it outside, to hold it inside with all present masked, or some other arrangement.
 5. The delivery of combined High School classes will return to the structure used before Spring Break.
- iii. Across both Campuses
1. Masks will be optional on both campuses, and students will be supported with their choice of whether to wear a mask or not.
 2. The daily symptom check through Parent Square will not be required or checked daily.
 3. Everyone will be asked to monitor themselves and their children for any symptoms and to speak with a coordinator if there is any illness in the family.
 4. If there is a school exposure in a classroom, we will implement the same process for informing parents, quarantining the positive student, testing exposed students on days 1, 3 and 5, and the wearing of masks in the classroom for ten calendar days as we have between February break and Spring break (full details in [appendix 4](#)).
 5. Anyone who is exposed to COVID-19 will continue to be asked to contact their level Coordinator (Sara Deon, Peggy Wilson, or Heather Lomason) to discuss whether they should isolate at home or test regularly for a week.
 6. Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 will be asked to isolate at home for a minimum of 5 days, and to return to school either once they have a negative antigen test, or on day eleven after COVID developed.

C. When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level for Washtenaw County is HIGH

- a. Both Campuses will operate generally as we have between February Break and Spring Break, with the addition that masks will be required across both campuses

- i. Lower School Campus
 - 1. Drop-off and Pick-up will happen through the car lanes that we have used from September to Spring Break.
 - 2. During recess and outside time students will remain with their own classes and not mix with students from other classes.
 - 3. Students will remain with their own classmates for all indoor activities. Activities that mix students from different classes (such as performances) will be held outdoors with students in class groups.
 - 4. Decisions will be made on an event-by-event basis as we choose whether to move an event to Zoom, to hold it outside, to hold it inside with all present masked, or some other arrangement.
- ii. High School Campus
 - 1. During free time, students will be welcome to mix with students from other grades only outside the building.
 - 2. Students will return to eating in their classrooms with only their own classmates.
 - 3. Ninth graders will be taught in the Assembly Hall.
 - 4. Decisions will be made on an event-by-event basis as we choose whether to move an event to Zoom, to hold it outside, to hold it inside with all present masked, or some other arrangement.
 - 5. The delivery of combined High School classes will return to the structure used before Spring Break.
- iii. Across both Campuses
 - 1. Masks will be required on both campuses, and students will be supported with mask breaks, and the delivery of as much curriculum outside as possible, including lunch, when the weather supports it
 - 2. The daily symptom check through Parent Square will be required and checked daily
 - 3. If there is a school exposure in a classroom, we will implement the same process for informing parents, quarantining the positive student, testing exposed students on day 1, 3 and 5, and the wearing of masks in the classroom for ten calendar days as we have between February break and Spring break (full details in [appendix 4](#))
 - 4. Anyone who is exposed to COVID-19 will continue to be asked to contact their level Coordinator (Sara Deon, Peggy Wilson, or Heather Lomason) to discuss whether they should isolate at home or test regularly for a week
 - 5. Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 will be asked to isolate at home for a minimum of 5 days, and to return to school either once they have a negative antigen test, or on day eleven after COVID developed.

D. When it is necessary to move between these levels, as indicated by the CDC determination of the county wide COVID-19 level – we will make that determination on a Friday, announcing it at 4 pm, and implement the change as of the Monday morning.

- a. For instance, if we are at CDC COVID-19 Level Medium for Washtenaw County and the level drops to Low on a Wednesday, we will announce the change on the Friday and start the approach to school as outlined above under Low on the following Monday.
- b. Any changes that take place after Friday at 4 pm will not be implemented (in either direction) until a week Monday. This is to allow teachers, administrators, parents, and students to always know the expectations for the coming week.
- c. The CDC COVID-19 Community Level will be listed on the COVID Page at the School Website so that parents can find it easily: <https://www.steinerschool.org/our-families/covid-19-information.cfm>

The work to update these plans was carried out by RSSAA Faculty and Staff and supported by the COVID-19 Task Force. Members of the COVID-19 Task Force are:

Paul Trombley	College Chair
Gary Banks	High School Faculty Chair
Peggy Wilson	Lower School Coordinator
Heather Rindels	Board Vice President and High School Parent
Jim McCauley	Board Treasurer
Knut Hill	Board Secretary and Grade and High School Parent
Holly Murphy	Grade and High School Parent and Physician
Siân Owen-Cruise	School Administrator
Carolyn Raschke	Finance Manager

The original plan, and all updates, including this April 8 update have been discussed, reviewed, and approved in both the College of Teachers and the Board of Trustees.

Members of the College of Teachers are:

Gary Banks	HS Science, Music and Math Teacher
Anne Birney	Early Childhood Lead Teacher
Noah Burns	HS Humanities Teacher
Erica Choberka	HS Life Science and Math Teacher
Noelle Frerichs	HS Physics and Math Teacher
Angela Gladstone	Early Childhood Lead Teacher
Anna Kamitses	Grade Five Class Teacher
Siân Owen-Cruise	School Administrator
Yoni Paz	HS Humanities Teacher
Paul Trombley	College Chair
Perla Schaeberle	LS Spanish Teacher
Robert White	Grade Eight Class Teacher
Peggy Wilson	Lower School Coordinator

Members of the Board of Trustees are:

Gary Banks	College Representative
Anni Fox Maniglia	RSSAA Alumna
Elizabeth Head	Current RSSAA Parent

Knut Hill	Secretary and Current RSSAA Parent
Jim McCauley	Treasurer
Don Remboski	Chair and Alumni Parent
Heather Rindels	Vice-Chair and Current RSSAA Parent
Timothy Standke	Current RSSAA Parent
Paul Trombley	College Representative

B. Plans for Operations When In CDC Level LOW

When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is Low we will in many ways be operating school as we did in fall of 2019 except when there is an in-school COVID-19 exposure, when we will increase precautions for the exposed class or classes.

Families who have joined the school since winter 2020 will have no experience of our conventional school operations, and many of those who have been here for longer will have forgotten some of the details in the past two years. The following information is an attempt to cover all the important information you will need, but we have certainly forgotten to include some things, so please just speak with a coordinator or your class teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Building Access:

We have deeply missed seeing parents in our buildings over the past two years and are happy that during CDC level low periods we will be able to welcome you back into our buildings. This means that parents will be able to come and go during the normal school day (see below) and attend some in-person events and activities. At all events when parents are present, masks will be encouraged but not required.

We will continue to offer the curbside drop off to the table on the Front Porch for anything that needs to go to a student or the office. We also will continue to bring your student out to your car if you need an early release for an appointment. Please just pull up and call the Front Office to let them know what is needed. Parents are still welcome in the building. Please come to the front doors by the office, press the call button and open the door when the lock is released. Go to the Front Office and they will assist you. Please do not go directly to the classroom.

School Open Houses:

Friday, April 22 from 2:30-6:00pm at the High School

Saturday, April 23 from 10am-3pm at the Lower School

We know that many of you are really interested in seeing into your child's classroom, and the school in general. These Open Houses will be a chance to explore the school building, visit your child's classroom, participate in some games, and receive some school swag. Please use this opportunity to come in and visit, just drop in during your regular Saturday activities. There will be more information on ParentSquare during the week of April 18.

Drop-off and Pick-Up: The one major area where we are going to continue the approach we have had since September is in Lower School Drop-off and Pick-up. Our traditional approach of a mix of drop off/pick-up in the front circle and parents parking and walking children in (especially in the Early Childhood Program) is dependent on a number of things including Before Care – which we are not offering until fall 2022. We also feel that making a change with two months left in the school year is unnecessarily disruptive. Therefore, we will continue the drop-off and pick-up lanes. Parents who need to come in after drop-off or before pick-up are welcome to park and do so. Parents are asked to park to drop off students late, or pick up early – and come to the office.

High School drop off and pick-up has never really changed as parents always just dropped off, and that will also continue as it has all school year.

Recess and School Day Activities:

During a Low CDC COVID-19 Community Level students will be allowed to mix with students from other classes outside and inside.

- a. Early Childhood: Traditionally our Early Childhood classes have played in groups of two classes together during morning outside time, and occasionally larger groups in the afternoon. This will start again this spring and Class Teachers will share the details with you. We have also occasionally brought our Early Childhood classes together for events such as puppet shows, and this may happen this spring. The Class Teachers will let you know of any such plans.
- b. Early Childhood – Golden Eagles: The Golden Eagles students will gather inside and outside to work on activities together, including the Friday walk.
- c. Grades 1 – 5: Recess for students in these grades is at the same time and students will again be allowed to play together in common spaces during the outdoor time. Class Teachers will provide more detail on this.
- d. Grades 6 – 8: Students in the Middle School will be allowed to freely use the Middle School common space at teacher discretion – this will allow them to work together and socialize.
- e. Grades 1 – 8: Activities such as assemblies and performances will once again start for the Grade School students. These are gatherings, usually in the gym, where students perform for each other and share their curriculum. We look forward to starting this again and parents will receive information about when they will happen.
- f. Grades 1 – 8 - Combined Classes: We will be combining the Grade 7/8 music program until the end of the year.
- g. Aftercare for EC to Grade 8: Students will be allowed to freely mix and play together in common spaces and during both indoor and outdoor time.
- h. High School: Students will be allowed to socialize and mix inside the building, using the common areas for eating and working during breaks and lunch. We will no longer be using the classrooms for eating.

School Events and Parent Activities

We have planned several school events and activities for April, May, and June. They include the School Open House, festivals such as May Day, a Community Engagement event on Supporting our Middle School Students with Social Media, an EC Picnic, the last day of school Rose Ceremony, and Graduation. During the last two weeks of April the Coordinators at each level will be sharing the plans for these events assuming a Low CDC COVID-19 Community Level, but we are also ready to pivot to a higher level of precaution if needed.

Sports

During a low CDC COVID Community Level, we will not be testing students for sports participation or practice.

Field and Out-of-town Trips

During a low CDC COVID Community Level, we will not be testing students for field trips within a single day (such as a trip to a farm or the Toledo zoo). We will be testing students for over-night trips. These tests can be school administered quick antigen tests or PCR tests sought by parents at their location of choice. We will be continuing this testing before over-night trips for two reasons. First, to avoid taking a student who is unwell on the trip, and secondly to avoid an intense exposure (eating and sleeping in the same spaces for a number of nights) to a whole class.

COVID-19 Related Precautions:

Illness at school: Teachers will monitor students for symptoms of COVID-19 throughout the day. If a student displays COVID-19 symptoms, the teacher will call the Front Office and the parents will be called to pick up the student. The student will be escorted to a comfortable but isolated place where he or she will be cared for while they wait for a parent to pick them up. When there is concern that a student or faculty/staff member might have COVID-19 the school is able to support the family with quick testing. The student or faculty/staff member will not be allowed to return without a negative COVID-19 test, but a school administered Binax Antigen test will be sufficient, a PCR is no longer required.

Response to any positive tests in the community: Although the State of Michigan is no longer requiring that people self-isolate when they have a confirmed case of COVID-19, RSSAA will still be requiring that anyone who tests positive, student or faculty member, stay at home until they test negative for COVID-19 on an antigen quick-test.

A. Response to a positive COVID-19 Case in a Student or Faculty Member

- The student who has the positive test result will be quarantined at home for a minimum of 5 calendar days
- On day 5 of the case the parent will have a conversation with the appropriate Level Coordinator. The individual will be able to return on or after day 6 when:
 - There is no fever
 - Any symptoms are resolving
 - There is a negative Antigen Test (can be school administered)
 - Students can return on day 11 without a negative Antigen Test if they have no fever and symptoms are resolving
- Parents of the exposed students, generally the full class, plus students in the same math, language, and music classes at the High School, will make one of the following choices:
 - Quarantine at home for 10 days
 - Quarantine at home for 5 days, testing with a PCR or Antigen quick test upon returning
 - Test out of quarantine with Antigen testing on day 1, 3, and 5 or as close as possible dependent on when we hear of the case and the calendar. During this time all students will return to mask wearing for ten calendar days after the exposure
- If families choose to quarantine at home, remote education appropriate to the level of the school will be offered for the quarantine period, details are in [Appendix 6](#)
- Details on the testing process can be found in [Appendix 7](#)
- Details on quarantine expectations can be found in [Appendix 4](#)

For our testing-out-of-quarantine program we are using the Binax Quick Tests provided to us by the State of Michigan. These are tests that involve the student swabbing the inside of the front of the nose

(not a deep nasal sample), and then an adult placing the swab in a test pack that includes an indicator that shows whether COVID-19 has been detected in 15 minutes.

Students Exposed Outside of School: If a student is considered a close contact to a person with a positive COVID-19 test outside of school, their parents are asked to have a conversation with the appropriate Level Coordinator. This conversation will be to assess the level of exposure, whether the exposure is ongoing, and the ability of the individual student to wear a high-quality mask and take additional precautions. The Coordinator will then decide whether the student is eligible for the test-out-of-quarantine process outlined above or needs to be quarantined at home for a period of time. We will make this decision balancing the need for students to be in school with the risk that they will spread COVID-19 within the classroom.

Website Tracking of School COVID-19 Data: We also keep information about positive COVID-19 cases on our website at <https://www.steinerschool.org/our-families/covid-19-information.cfm>. The table has been simplified and no longer includes numbers of children quarantining and testing out of quarantine. This became too much to track as families often choose to stay home for a day or two and then return, so the numbers were always changing. The table lists the following:

- Data by campus (LS and HS) and by student and faculty.
- Numbers of students/employees who have a positive COVID-19 test in any week and attended school creating an exposure to others.
- We update it daily, so it is completely current.

C. Plans for School Operations When In CDC Level MEDIUM

When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is Medium we will essentially be operating school as we did between February Break 2022 and Spring Break 2022, except that we will not be requiring masks on either campus. When there is an in-school COVID-19 exposure, we will increase precautions for the exposed class or classes.

Our approach includes:

- Optional masking from the Early Childhood Program through the High School
- Physical distancing of a minimum of three feet when indoors whenever possible
- Vaccination, by family choice, with any of the available COVID-19 vaccinations, for all eligible people – we do know that many of the eligible community members are currently vaccinated
- Cohorting of students and tracking of contacts, to reduce possible exposures
- The use of quarantine and testing to ensure that exposed students do not develop or pass on COVID-19
- Testing for COVID-19 cases in specific situations, such as sports competitions, field trips, and travel
- Ensuring healthy environments through effective ventilation and regular cleaning

Masks: Students in all our programs will have the option of whether to wear a face mask when indoors throughout the school day. They can choose when to wear a mask and when not. Class teachers will support students in their choices, working to ensure that there is not pressure in any direction from classmates. Class teachers will also work with parents to support family choices in this area as much as possible at school. If there is a classroom exposure to COVID-19, all exposed students will be asked to wear a face mask at school for ten calendar days.

Physical Distancing: Across both campuses students will be seated at least three feet apart in our classrooms. There are some specifics to be aware of:

- **Early Childhood Classrooms:** Children in Early Childhood classrooms do not spend their days at desks or sitting indoors, instead they play, move, and interact. We will not be asking students in our Early Childhood program to socially distance except for sitting in their seats at meals and on their nap mats when sleeping. The teachers will ensure that they are spaced appropriately at tables for eating and that the nap mats are placed so that students are not in close face-near-face proximity when resting and sleeping.
- **Grades 1-8 Classrooms:** Desks for students in Grades 1 – 8 will have at least three feet spacing between students, and students will be expected to sit at their desks for eating and drinking. Again, as with the Early Childhood students, the grades students will still move around the classroom and play together, and we will not be enforcing unrealistic expectations on these behaviors.
- **High School Classrooms:** The desks in our classrooms for full-grade classrooms will be three feet apart, and students in mixed-grade classrooms (music, math, and language) will also be sat at least three feet apart.

See [Appendix 1](#) for full details of symptom checking and responses that should be taken to any symptoms.

Staying home whenever ill: Parents will be asked to keep children home for any COVID-19 symptoms or a fever of 100.4 and above and discuss accessing COVID-19 testing if symptoms continue. Faculty and staff are also being asked to stay home when they have any symptoms or a fever. We realize that this will lead to higher-than-normal levels of absence in both students and employees. To support employees, we have expanded our paid sick time for the 2021-22 School Year to avoid people reporting to work when they are potentially ill. Teachers will be ready to support students who are home with make-up work and flexibility as usual for ill students. We will not be offering a remote program for students who are home ill, but teachers will support learning and catching up as we do for all students out for any illness. For full guidance on the handling of symptoms please see [Appendix 1](#).

Cohorting: Throughout the school we are working to keep students in controlled size groups throughout the day to allow us to reduce possible exposures and be completely aware of who students have been in contact with. This means:

- **Early Childhood:** Our Early Childhood classrooms are in full classes ranging from 12 in our PreK class to 19 in our mixed-aged kindergartens. The children will stay in these groups and will not mix with children in other classes.
- **Grades 1-8:** Each grade is together in a single classroom with their class teacher and subject teachers. This is how we have traditionally run our classes. Subject teachers are coming to the classroom, and for specific classes the entire class does travel to the subject room (such as the gym for movement or the art room). The schedule is one that anyone enrolled in the school for the 2019-20 School Year will find familiar. All students are receiving all subject lessons in a regular rotation throughout each week. We are actively working to ensure that students do not meet students of other classes in the hallways, while playing outside, or in any classrooms.
- **High School:** We are continuing with the normal schedule in the High School and students meet students from other grades in math, language, and music classes. For those classes they are physically distanced by six feet, and fully masked. Between January 15 and April 8, 2022, students will not be allowed to sit together inside with students from different grades, outside of class.

Illness at school: Teachers will monitor students for symptoms of COVID-19 throughout the day. If a student displays COVID-19 symptoms, the teacher will call the Front Office and the parents will be called to pick up the student. The student will be escorted to a comfortable but isolated place where he or she will be cared for while they wait for a parent to pick them up. When there is concern that a student or faculty/staff member might have COVID-19 the school is able to support the family with quick testing. The student or faculty/staff member will not be allowed to return without a negative COVID-19 test, but a school administered Binax Antigen test will be sufficient, a PCR is no longer required.

Response to any positive tests in the community: Although the State of Michigan is no longer requiring that people even self-isolated when they have a confirmed case of COVID-19, RSSAA will still be requiring that anyone who tests positive, student or faculty member, stay at home until they test negative, on an antigen quick-test, for COVID-19

A. Response to a positive COVID-19 Case in a Student or Faculty Member

- The student who has the positive test result will be quarantined at home for a minimum of 5 calendar days
- On day 5 of the case the parent will have a conversation with the appropriate Level Coordinator. The individual will be able to return on or after day 6 when:
 - There is no fever
 - Any symptoms are resolving
 - There is a negative Antigen Test (can be school administered)
 - Students can return on day 11 without a negative Antigen Test if they have no fever and symptoms are resolving
- Parents of the exposed students, generally the full class, plus students in the same math, language, and music classes at the High School, will make one of the following choices:
 - Quarantine at home for 5 days, ideally testing with a PCR or Antigen quick test upon returning
 - Test out of quarantine with Antigen testing on day 1, 3, and 5 or as close as possible dependent on when we hear of the case and the calendar. During this time all students will return to mask wearing for ten calendar days after the exposure.
- If families choose to quarantine at home, remote education will be offered for the quarantine period, appropriate to the level of the school, details are in [Appendix 6](#)
- Details on the testing process can be found in [Appendix 7](#)
- Details on quarantine expectations can be found in [Appendix 4](#)

For our testing-out-of-quarantine program we are using the Binax Quick Tests provided to us by the State of Michigan. These are tests that involve the student swabbing the inside of the front of the nose (not a deep nasal sample), and then an adult placing the swab in a test pack that includes an indicator that shows whether COVID-19 has been detected in 15 minutes.

Students Exposed Outside of School: If a student is considered a close contact to a person with a positive COVID-19 test outside of school, their parents are asked to have a conversation with the appropriate Level Coordinator. This conversation will be to assess the level of exposure, whether the exposure is ongoing, and the ability of the individual student to wear a high-quality mask and take additional precautions. The Coordinator will then decide whether the student is eligible for the test-out-of-quarantine process outlined above or needs to be quarantined at home for a period of time. We will make this decision balancing the need for students to be in school with the risk that they will spread COVID-19 within the classroom.

Website Tracking of School COVID-19 Data: We also keep information about positive COVID-19 cases on our website at <https://www.steinerschool.org/our-families/covid-19-information.cfm>. The table has been simplified and no longer includes numbers of children quarantining and testing out of quarantine. This became too much to track as families often choose to stay home for a day or two and then return, so the numbers were always changing. The table lists the following:

- Data by campus (LS and HS) and by student and faculty.
- Numbers of students/employees who have a positive COVID-19 test in any week and attended school creating an exposure to others.
- We update it daily, so it is completely current.

Testing for COVID-19: There are a few other situations in which we are routinely testing students for COVID-19.

- Overnight and Field Trips – Any trips that include overnight stays or significant travel by shared transportation (cars, buses, or planes) will require a negative COVID-19 test before a student can participate. The full policy is in [Appendix 8](#).
- Participation in Indoor Sports – All Middle and High School students participating in Spring Indoor Sports will need to be tested in the following way:
 - For indoor practices – twice weekly, with at least three days between the two tests.
 - For all competitions – directly before the event. This can replace the requirement for the testing for indoor practices if it meets the twice weekly requirement.

For our regular monitoring program, we are using the FlowFlex Antigen Tests provided to us by the State of Michigan. These are tests that involve the student swabbing the inside of the front of the nose (not a deep nasal sample), and then an adult placing the swab in a test pack that includes an indicator that shows whether COVID-19 has been detected in 15 minutes.

Access to the Building: During a COVID-19 surge we will be again reducing our activities and parent access to the building for meetings and classroom access. Please know that we dislike this intensely and look forward to the days when we can stop and chat, gather to celebrate things, and hold school events. We are planning several events for late April and May that will be on campus and in person and aim to hold these outdoors if we are in a medium level of Community COVID-19.

Faculty Testing: We have been regularly testing faculty and staff members throughout the 2021-22 School Year and will continue this in a Medium level. Testing is done weekly on both campuses. Any positive quick test will result in the full COVID-19 case response process taking place.

Drop-off and Pick-Up of EC Children: Early Childhood students will be dropped off and picked up curbside at designated areas. Early Childhood students will be dropped off with their teachers and will wait with their teachers at their designated curbside areas for pick up. Drop off will be between 8:30 and 8:45 am. Early Bird pick up (half-day students) will be at 12:15 pm. Full day pick-up will be between 2:50 and 3:00 pm.

Drop-off and Pick-Up of Grade 1 -8 Children: Grade 1-8 students will be dropped off and picked up curbside at designated areas.

Class Structure and Placement: Each grade will be together in a single classroom with their Class Teacher and subject teachers. Subject teachers will come to the classroom, and for specific classes the entire class will travel to the subject room (such as the gym for movement or the art room).

Each classroom will be physically set up to keep student desks at least three feet apart, and we will continue to ensure that we are not encouraging close contact inside. However, it is important for us all to be realistic about young children and to understand that students will come into close contact with each other throughout the day. If there is a positive case in a class, we will consider all the students in the class to be close contacts for quarantine decision making. As mentioned under social distancing, we expect children of this age to often come closer together than three feet in play and normal activity and we will not be treating this as a problem in the classroom.

Specific Lower School Curriculum Considerations:

- **Singing:** We will include singing in the normal classroom day under the mask rules in place for the grade at that time.
- **Instrumental Music:** String instrumental music classes are held inside. Brass and wind instrumental music classes will continue as they have been since December.
- **Outdoor Play:** Students will be able to engage in normal outdoor plan with their own class only.

High School Class Structure and Placement: High School students will be scheduled as we have conventionally held our school days, with morning main lesson and afternoon classes scheduled with their grade, and the ability to mix grades in math, language, and music classes. Eating will take place outside or in their grade's main lesson room only. Common areas include the High School Commons and Athletic Commons, gym, classrooms not assigned to a particular grade, hallways, and bathrooms. Everyone in these spaces will need to be masked at all times and are not expected to use these areas for socializing, instead going outside for social interaction. This will allow students to have lots of connection to students in the other grades without raising the amount of inside contact between them.

Special High School Curriculum Considerations:

- **Instrumental and Vocal Music Curriculum:** During the 2021-22 School Year we have returned to our regular instrumental music curriculum. We will be holding singing classes in grade or two-grade groups (just 9th or 9th and 10th only for instance) indoors. Smaller singing groups will be meeting as a whole, with students in different grades spread apart in a large space. This has generally been working well and we will continue it through the April-June period. Due to increased respiration, this will be limited, for example when a class is in exposure-based quarantine.
- **All School Assembly:** All School Assembly will take place weekly outside or in the gym, with classes socially distanced across the bleachers and around the room.
- **Trips and Internships:** We were able to successfully hold both the Senior Trip to Maine (in September) and the High School Hiking Club Trip (in October). Therefore, we are committed to continuing these experiences throughout this year. The opportunity for students to move beyond the walls of the High School is an integral part of our program, and in the spring of 2021, we managed to return to COVID-19-safe implementations of trips and activities – this year our intention is the following:
 - **Internships – Grade 11:** We are currently planning on our Grade 11 students completing their internships in the spring of 2022. The exact shape of the internships, including the level of in-person placement will be directly affected by the level of COVID-19 in the community in spring of 2022 and we will finalize our plans as we draw closer.
 - **Trips – Grades 9, 10:** We are currently planning for the spring 2022 Grade 9 Farm Trip and Grade 10 Survey Trip.

Extracurricular Trips: We are planning for our normal extracurricular trips, including the Grade 9 Farm Trip and Grade 10 Survey Trip. All students participating in a trip (class or extracurricular) will be tested with rapid FlowFlex COVID-19 tests at least twice in the three days before the trip departs. In addition, students will be provided with the safest possible sleeping conditions, including individual tents for tent camping.

Clubs: All extracurricular clubs are meeting at the High School. Meetings will take place inside, although they will be encouraged to be outside when the weather is nice. Students will be required to sign in for all meetings so that we can track contacts for any exposure and quarantine management in the event of a case of COVID-19 at school.

In-Person Instruction Operations: Extended Day

Lower School Campus: We are offering Aftercare from the end of school until 5 pm for all students on the Lower School Campus. The program will primarily be held outside, and students will need to be well dressed for the elements. When students must be inside, we will be working to keep them socially distanced from students in other grades. However, every family using Aftercare needs to understand that their child will be in contact with students from other classrooms and this will mean an additional risk of exposure to COVID-19. If a student who attended Aftercare tests positive for COVID-19 we will consider other students from other grades who were inside for Aftercare to have been exposed. In most cases this will not be a problem as, except in bad weather, the program will be outside, and students will not be considered close contacts.

High School Campus: We are offering our After School program at the High School until 5:30 pm daily. Students will work in common areas with adult supervision and will be masked at all times. They will be expected to work with students in their own grade and only socialize with students from other grades outside.

Athletics: We are offering a full athletic program to Middle and High School students. Full details are available in [Appendix 9](#). We are using testing to reduce the likelihood of exposure at practices and competitions. We will be allowing immediate family members and students as spectators, with masks and socially distanced. We will not be offering any concessions. When visiting other schools, spectators should understand that we will follow the expectations of the host school. Many are no longer asking for spectators to be masked or socially distanced. Our students will continue to be tested regularly and will have the choice about whether to mask in competition (they have had this all season).

Events: During CDC Level Medium we will handle events in the following way:

Class or High School Parent Meetings	Zoom or in person – each Class Teacher will decide for their class and High School Carrying Group will decide for the High School.
HS College Nights	Zoom meetings.
Golden Eagles Meetings	Zoom or in person – the EC Faculty will decide.
Field Trips	Held with decision of each level faculty group and Carrying Group. COVID-19 quick testing before any significant transportation and all over-night trips.
Plays and Performances	Individually decided for each situation. Possible scenarios include having no audience at all, to performing outside, to testing all performers and allowing an unmasked indoor play. These decisions will be made by teachers and Coordinators and be highly responsive to the community COVID-19 level at the time of the performance.
Rose Ceremony – Spring	In person on the Lower School campus. Details about who will attend, where it will be and when, will be decided in May.

Spring Trips – HS	Currently planning on all HS including Model UN, Hiking Club, 9 th Grade Farm Trip, and 10 th Grade Survey Trip. Decisions will be finalized as they draw closer (at least one month ahead to allow for family planning).
Spring Trips and Activities – LS	Currently planning for a Spring 2022 Eighth Grade Trip. We are planning trips for other classes with the understanding that should community COVID levels rise to the CDC Medium level we may have to cancel or change them.

D. Plans for School Operations When In CDC Level HIGH

When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is High we will implement all the same precautions as we will in the Medium level plan outlined above, with the addition of requiring masks for all students and adults on both campuses and returning to the morning ParentSquare Symptom Check.

Masks: The following requirements for facial covering (masks that cover nose and mouth) will be in place:

- **Faculty and Staff:** All faculty and staff will always wear a facial covering (except when eating or drinking) when they are indoors on campus. Masks can be removed by an individual when alone in private offices with closed doors. Masks for normal classroom use can be homemade, at least double layers of cotton or other material that provides containment of aerosol droplets; commercially made; or disposable, level-one grade surgical masks. RSSAA will provide masks to all faculty and staff who would like them, but employees are encouraged to decide what is the most comfortable for them individually and wear them throughout the school day.
- **Students from PreK to Grade 12:** All students in Grades PreK to 12 will be expected to wear a face mask when indoors throughout the school day. Masks for normal classroom use can be homemade; commercially made; or disposable, level-one grade surgical masks. Students are asked to provide their own mask, but RSSAA will have them available if a student forgets to bring one. Students will be asked to put their mask on before entering the building and to wear it throughout the day unless they are outside.
- **Visitors to Campus:** All visitors to campus will wear masks when inside the buildings.

Our expectations for masks are:

- Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric, or are surgical, multi-layer disposable paper masks
- Completely cover the nose and mouth
- Fit snugly against the sides of the face and don't have gaps

Do not use masks that:

- Are made of mesh and do not have the two solid layers of fabric
- Are gaiters or other neck warmers

“High-quality” Masks: Throughout the guidelines below for Isolation and Quarantine you will see references to “high-quality” masks being recommended or needed (by faculty and staff) in particular situations. These types of masks are any of the following:

- N95 masks
- KN95 masks
- Combination of a surgical mask with a cloth mask on top
- Double cloth mask

We strongly recommend that all community members wear the most effective masks possible. For faculty and staff this is a high-quality mask and when a faculty or staff member is returning from a case

of COVID-19, or has been exposed on or off campus, they must wear a high-quality mask when on campus. For the children this is more challenging as some students struggle with the basic mask and are unable to wear the more restricting ones. However, it is clear that masks are very protective of the individual wearing the mask, so if you are concerned, we encourage you to find a high quality one for your child that works.

Masks are optional outdoors on both campuses, students and teachers may wear them at their own choice and discretion.

Everyone is encouraged to have multiple masks available to them on campus, to change them whenever in the day they are wet or soiled, and to wash them regularly.

Masks are a difficult challenge for all of us – children and adults – at this point in the pandemic. We will be working across all levels to make sure that mask break areas are available easily and within the view of each teacher, and that everyone is supported with mask wearing. Details on this are below.

Mask Breaks: We have worked across the school to ensure that all students are well supported in their mask wearing, and that mask breaks are available as needed. The details for each area are:

- **Early Childhood:** We will be outside as much as possible when the weather is good, and the students will have plenty of time each day without a mask. However, faculty in the Early Childhood program will all be watching for moments during the day when children need additional support with their masks. This will include ensuring that there are plenty of extra masks available for when a child gets a mask wet or soiled, and warmly removing children from the room for breaks from the mask when needed. The full EC Masking Policy can be found in [Appendix 10](#).
- **Grades 1-8:** Each individual grade will have a mask break approach in place so that students who need a break can take one. In most cases this will involve the outdoor space immediately outside the room, but in the case of classrooms without external doors it will involve support from the front office. Each class teacher will share their mask break approach with parents. All teachers will support mask breaks, and we encourage parents to talk with their class teacher about the individual needs of their children.
- **High School:** Students in the High School are always able to take bathroom and necessary breaks when needed. Students will be supported in stepping out when needed and to take full advantage of class passing and transition times. Any student or parent with concerns should speak with Ann Brennan or Heather Lomason.

E. Decision Making at RSSAA around Plan Changes

Overview of School Decision Making: At Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor, we have a governance model that clearly delineates the way in which different bodies of the school take responsibility for decision making in various areas. Generally, as we implement this plan, they will make decisions in the following places:

- a) Curriculum Decisions at the class level – Made by Class or Subject Teachers with Carrying Group and faculty input – for instance: how specific blocks and subjects are taught within the boundaries of the RSSAA Scope and Sequence.
- b) Curriculum Decisions for a full level of the school – Made by the Level Faculty Circle– for instance: how a specific subject or activity is brought to the students in multiple grades.
- c) Curriculum Decisions for the full school – Made by the College of Teachers with input by faculty and Carrying Groups at all levels – for instance: whether to continue a particular subject at this time or not.
- d) Health Policy Decisions at the class level – Made by the Carrying Group and the Class Teacher collaboratively.
- e) Health Policy Decisions for a full level of the school – Made by the Level Carrying Group with level faculty input.
- f) Health Policy Decisions for the full school – Made by the College of Teachers and Board collaboratively.
- g) Personnel Decisions – Made by the Carrying Group at each level of the school.
- h) Financial and legal decisions – Made by the Board of Trustees.
- i) Major School decisions – Made by the College of Teachers and Board of Trustees – For instance Strategic Plan approval or Governance Model Updates.

Ongoing Commitment to Meeting All Rules and Regulations: We are committed to continuing to meet all laws and regulations that are put forth by the State of Michigan and relevant licensing and regulatory bodies. When a new regulation or order is released that exceeds our current standards, we will immediately decide how best to adjust school operations to meet the new expectations. We will then formally add that change to our school COVID-19 policies which means that if the law or regulation is cancelled it will continue to be enforced within the school until we have had time to discuss the change, decide which group should make the appropriate decision about whether to change our school polices, and to develop any new policies. This means that the school community will have certainty about what is in place day to day, as all policies will stay in place until we decide that it is appropriate to change them.

Decision Making Around Updates and Adjustments to this Plan: We will review this plan is conditions change and it is necessary before the end of the school year. All reviews will include a community input opportunity. The review will start in the COVID-19 Task Force (who meet at least every other week so are continually examining what is working well and what needs attention) which will examine the changing COVID-19 context in the community, the CDC and Health Department recommendations, and input from school community members. The COVID-19 Task Force works with the Carrying Groups of

each level of the school to make recommendations for changes to the plan. These recommendations then go to the College and Board for action and decision making.

Decision Making Around Implementation of this plan – Moving From CDC COVID-19 Community Level Low to Medium to High: The School Administrator will implement the changes indicated in this plan when the CDC changes the Washtenaw County Community Level. This will not require additional school decision making as the School Administrator will be following the policy laid out in this plan.

Appendix 1: Symptom Response for Students and Employees Who are Ill

We work with the guidance from the State of Michigan and the Washtenaw County Health Department on how to respond to any students with possible COVID-19 symptoms. The guidance is conservative to avoid the possible spread of COVID-19 within a school.

If you must answer yes to any of the listed symptoms on the morning ParentSquare Health Screening you will need to call your Coordinator (Sara for EC, Peggy for LS, and Heather for HS) and they will use the following decision rules to tell you what to do. The major change from our earlier plan is that we can now use an Antigen quick test (the kind we have been using at school all fall and winter) as a check for COVID-19.

A. Does student have **ANY** of the following symptoms (new/different/worse from baseline of chronic illness):

1. Temperature 100.4 or signs of fever (chills/sweating)
2. Sore Throat
3. New onset of cough
4. New onset of cold, runny nose
5. Diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain
6. New onset of headache
7. Loss of taste or loss of smell

B. Has student had **ANY** close contact or potential exposure risk in the past 14 days

1. Had close contact with a person with confirmed COVID-19
2. Had close contact with a person under quarantine for possible exposure to COVID-19
3. Attended large events (e.g., wedding, concert), especially indoors
4. Traveled by public transportation

IF A is Yes and B is No: Individual must receive a COVID test and/or medical evaluation. Can return with negative test and symptom improvement per usual communicable disease guidelines. Test can be a school administered Quick Antigen Test.

IF A is Yes and B is Yes: Individual must receive a COVID test. Test can be a school administered Antigen Test, and ideally when there is both symptoms and contact two negative Antigen tests are needed to return.

IF A is No and B is Yes: the student should Receive a Covid Test, Antigen quick test at school is sufficient.

IF A is No and B is No: Individual can attend school as normal.

Note that there is not an option of the employee or child feeling better and coming back to school without one of the above conditions being satisfied. However, if a family does not want to test for COVID-19 (either quick or PCR Test) they can always choose to quarantine at home for the ten days before returning. This means that there is no requirement of a test, or of a medical consultation. In general, though, this system really encourages COVID-19 testing. If you need to get a COVID-19 test you

can either do that at school with a Binax Antigen Quick Test, through your regular physician or through one of the community tests sites or commercials sites. A full listing of Washtenaw County COVID-19 Test sites is available at <https://www.washtenaw.org/3158/Testing>

Appendix 2: COVID-19 Positive Case Response Plan

- A. When the school is informed of, or identifies, a positive COVID-19 case in either a student or faculty member, whoever is informed will immediately tell Siân Owen-Cruise. Siân will coordinate the RSSAA response and take responsibility for ensuring that the Washtenaw Health Department is informed.
- B. RSSAA will directly inform, through ParentSquare or email all faculty members exposed, and the parents of all students exposed. You can expect this notification to come within two to three hours of the school becoming aware of the case.
- C. The student or staff member who has tested positive will follow the following protocol:
 - a. Minimum 5-day quarantine at home
 - b. On day 5 the Level Coordinator will have a conversation with the parent or faculty/staff member about appropriate return day. The individual can return on day six, or the first day that all the following are true:
 - i. No fever
 - ii. Symptoms are resolving
 - iii. Negative Antigen Test
 - iv. Student or adult is encouraged to wear a high-quality mask until day 11
 - c. Everyone is allowed to take as much time as they need to recover, and we will support both students and employees with that
 - d. After day 11 the individual can return without the need for an Antigen test

Appendix 3: RSSAA COVID Concern Plans

When there is a concern about a possible case in a student or faculty or staff member, RSSAA will follow these procedures and policies

- A. Response to a possible COVID-19 case in a student or faculty/staff member
 - a. When there are symptoms that raise concern about possible infection the individual (or parent) has a conversation with the Level Coordinator. If there is no clear other explanation, then:
 - i. School offers an Antigen Test immediately; parent chooses whether to have the student take it
 - ii. Individual spends one school day at home (or weekend if the illness starts on a Friday)
 - iii. School requires a negative Antigen Test (administered on campus) or PCR to return
 - b. Individual can seek a PCR test of their own choosing if they do not wish to use school Antigen Tests
 - c. Individual can choose to quarantine for ten days from onset of symptoms

Appendix 4: RSSAA Procedures for response to a Classroom Exposure to COVID-19

When there is a known exposure in a classroom, RSSAA will implement the following process

- A. We will send the following communications within the RSSAA Community:
 - a. Phone call or email to all exposed faculty and staff members.
 - b. ParentSquare post or email to the parents of all exposed students.
 - i. This communication will include the name of the positive individual (so people can assess their own risk), the timing of the exposure, and anything we know about how it was confirmed.
 - ii. This communication will be followed up with information on both the test-out-of-quarantine process, and remote schooling for those quarantining at home.
 - c. ParentSquare post to the full community letting everyone know of the case and on which campus it was on.
 - d. Within the day the www.steinerschool.org COVID-19 webpage will be updated with the cases.
- B. Once informed, parents need to make decisions for their students about the type and length of quarantine – and whether to test out of quarantine
 - a. Parents can choose from the following options
 - i. Quarantine at home for 10 days
 - ii. Quarantine at home for 5 days, test with Antigen Test or PCR on day 6 and return on day 6 (or when PCR result comes) if negative, they will be expected to wear a mask for 10 calendar days from the exposure
 - iii. Test out of quarantine
 1. Wear a mask while at school for 10 calendar days from the exposure
 2. Antigen test on day 1, 3, and 5
- C. Once informed faculty and staff will need to decide about their quarantine
 - a. Exposed faculty
 - i. Wear high-quality mask for ten days
 - ii. Antigen test on day 1, 3 and 5
 - iii. Can also choose to quarantine for 10 days, or quarantine for 5 days and test upon return on day 6

Appendix 5: Response to Community Exposure

When a person (student or employee) is exposed to COVID-19 in the community or in their own home from a family member, we will use the following process:

- A. For students, the parent starts with a conversation with their Level Coordinator to decide how serious the exposure is, and whether it is ongoing. The Coordinator decides whether the individual can return before the full 10-day quarantine.
 - b. For exposed students, the parent and Coordinator can choose from the following options, and exposed faculty and staff can choose for themselves
 - i. Quarantine at home for 10 days
 - ii. Quarantine at home for 5 days, test with Antigen Test or PCR on day 6 and return on day 6 (or when PCR result comes) if negative and must wear a mask until calendar day 11 after exposure date
 - iii. Test out of quarantine
 1. Antigen test on day 1, 3 and 5
 2. Student or adult wears a mask for 10 calendar days from exposure

Appendix 6: RSSAA Remote Education Plans for Quarantine Periods

Whenever a group of students or full class are in a quarantine period, RSSAA will be offering remote education. We have found that in general the older students do better with the regular routine of in-school classes and encourage families to use our test-out-of-quarantine program, but we also understand that every family situation is different and that for some students, remote education is the best alternative.

Remote education is also much more easily accessed and useful to older students. So, what we plan to offer during quarantine periods changes as we move through the school.

Early Childhood Program: For early childhood families who choose to quarantine at home we hope that the days can be full of play, time with parents and extra nurturing. Weekly during a quarantine period the class teacher will schedule a Zoom check in with parents and the EC Coordinator will share a variety of resources, including stories and circles, on video for parents to use. Class Teachers are always available during quarantine periods for one-to-one conversation and support.

Grades One to Three: The remote program will be primarily a packet-based program with occasional (not daily) Zoom times for teachers and students. Each teacher will work with parents to ensure that children are supported in the necessary catch-up process upon returning.

Grades Four to Six: Depending on the block, teachers in the middle grades will use a mix of packets, independent work, Zoom meetings and individual one-on-one conversations to keep all children as up to date as possible during an at-home quarantine, with a focus on ensuring that they are easily able to catch up fully upon returning.

Grades Seven and Eight: Main lesson, mathematics and world language classes will be streamed to seventh and eighth graders. The class teacher will ensure that assignments are sent home and work is completed.

High School: All academic classes will be streamed at the High School to allow students quarantining at home to stay up to date with their classes. This includes math, world language, main lesson, and afternoon academics. Movement, health, college prep, music, and art will not be streamed, and students will be asked to connect with their teachers in these areas upon return to catch up. High School students quarantining at home are expected to attend all their remote classes, come to class ready to work, have their camera on as much as possible, and to work with their teachers to complete their assignments and turn their work in promptly. In particular blocks, there are challenges to full participation from home (especially science lab classes) and any changes to the curriculum will be worked out between students and teachers.

Appendix 7: RSSAA COVID-19 Quick Testing Plans

We are using two kinds of tests, both provided by the State of Michigan. The Binax Quick Tests are being used for the test-out-of-quarantine processes on both campuses. The Flowflex Antigen tests are being used for regular testing of faculty, students participating in sports, and before trips. These are tests that involve the parent or student (depending on age of student) swabbing the inside of the front of the nose (not a deep nasal sample), and then an adult placing the swab in a test pack that includes an indicator that shows whether COVID-19 has been detected in 15 minutes. We have found that generally students and adults tolerate these well once they have had a first experience that it is not painful.

Testing out of quarantine on the Lower School Campus: We will be using the front parking lot at the Lower School as our location for testing of students who are exposed and testing out of quarantine. The process will be:

- We will be testing either before or after the drop-off period for the program involved. This does mean that the students testing out of quarantine will either have to arrive early or have a shortened day. We will decide how to best serve each class when the time for the testing comes.
- Each morning of the quarantine period the parent will arrive on campus and pull into the drop off lane, rolling down the passenger's side window.
- A staff member conducting tests will go to the car and help the parent complete the test on the student.
 - Parent will use the swab to gather the sample from the student – it is a front of the nose, long Q-tip and does not hurt. Older children can self-administer.
 - Staff member will run the test and time it (15 minutes are needed).
- The parent can then choose to wait in the front parking lot or off campus for the time to pass while we wait for all the results.
- If the result was positive a staff member will immediately share the positive result with the parent and talk through next steps.

Testing out of quarantine on the High School campus:

We will be using the back parking lot of the High School as our location for testing of students who are exposed and testing out of quarantine. The process will be:

- The parent or student will arrive on campus and pull into a parking space near the Chemistry lab.
- A staff member conducting tests will go to the car and help the student complete the test.
- During the 15-minute waiting period the student will remain in the vehicle.
- After 15 minutes the student is free to leave the car and go into school as normal.
- The testers will ensure that if there is a positive result the parent or student is talked to immediately and they do not enter the building.

Testing of community members when needed: We are happy to support parents and families with Antigen testing. Please call your Level Coordinator to arrange this.

Appendix 8: RSSAA Policy on Overnight Trips and COVID-19 Testing

Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor wants to be able to offer appropriate trips, both overnight and field trips, to students throughout the 2021-22 School Year.

Normal COVID precautions, appropriate for the CDC Community level, will be used throughout the trips with full details shared with parents for each individual trip depending on the circumstances, but will include mask wearing in agreement with the current policy active on campus, individual or highly distant sleeping arrangements, eating outside whenever possible, and ventilated and widely-spaced transportation options. Currently the State of Michigan is requiring that masks be worn on school transportation and we are complying with that rule for transportation.

The impact of having a student develop COVID-19 while on the trip would be significant as it would likely mean that the trip had to end at that point as students would need to be brought home to quarantine. Therefore, we are putting the following testing requirements in place for all overnight or long-distance trips:

- Using the State of Michigan provided quick tests, all students will be tested the day before the trip and the morning of the trip, before departing with their class. The use of two tests close to the departure will help reduce the likelihood of false negatives.
- Students who do not want to be tested at school can choose to get a private quick test, but it will need to be done on the same days as the school-arranged tests and the official results shared with the school.
- Any student who tests positive will need to get a PCR test (results usually within 24 -36 hours) before they are cleared to go on the trip – this is the one situation in which we are still asking for a PCR test as the cost of a false positive Antigen test is so high, as the student would not be allowed to attend the trip.
- If the PCR Test is positive the student will need to quarantine and cannot attend the trip.
- If the PCR Test is negative the student will be able to join the trip late.

We are using tests provided to us by the State of Michigan. These are tests that involve the student swabbing the inside of the front of the nose (not a deep nasal sample), and then an adult places the swab in a test pack that includes an indicator that shows whether COVID-19 has been detected in 15 minutes.

Appendix 9: Sports Program

RSSAA COVID-19 Precautions –Sports Program

We expect all students, coaches and anyone assisting to follow these guidelines:

- Individuals participating in **indoor** practices and games will be required to comply with the mask expectations of that level of the school on the day of the practice. Masks will be expected when we are in a CDC Community Level of High only.
- Individuals participating in **outdoor** practices and games will not be required to wear a mask during activities (however they may if they so choose). These individuals must still bring a mask for the possibility of going indoors (restrooms, inclement weather sheltering, etc.).
- Everyone must bring their own water bottle and may not share any water bottles during practices.
- All athletes will use hand sanitizer before and after practice.

RSSAA Sports Participation COVID-19 Testing Expectations 2021-22

Testing for COVID-19 will be a requirement for participation in all RSSAA sports during the 2021-22 School Year.

For sports that practice and compete **outdoors** testing will be required before every competition. These sports are Soccer and Cross County.

For sports that practice and compete **indoors** testing will be required before every competition and at least twice weekly. This means that when teams are in a practice-only period, they will be tested twice a week, and when in a period of competition will likely only need to be tested before a game (as they will be at least twice a week). These sports are Volleyball and Basketball.

Testing Process and Material

We are using the tests provided to us by the State of Michigan. These are tests that involve the student swabbing the inside of the front of the nose (not a deep nasal sample), and then an adult places the swab in a test pack that includes an indicator that shows whether COVID-19 has been detected in 15 minutes.

We have been using these tests at the Rudolf Steiner High School since last February and have found them to be quick and easy to administer.

If a student receives a positive test, they will not be able to practice or compete until their quarantine is complete. If they choose to test out of quarantine they will be allowed to participate if wearing a high-quality mask. They can seek a PCR if they want to check that the positive result is reliable.

We have not yet had any false positive in our testing of faculty and students, although that is possible. A false positive would lead to a student being unable to practice or compete for approximately 24 hours as we waited for the confirming PCR test.

All tests will be overseen and read by a training RSSAA Faculty or Staff member, and students will see an Athletic Director, Coordinator or School Administrator for the test at the times scheduled and shared with them each week.

Scheduling of tests:

When the High School is in the mode of testing regularly on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday those tests will be sufficient for sports participation. At other times, and at the Lower School, the tests for competition will be given at lunchtime on the day of competition. Athletes will be asked to take 5 minutes out of their lunches to go to the front office and sign in for testing.

Any student not in school on the day of a competition, but eligible to play (say was at the dentist), will be tested before the competition when they arrive and should make sure that they come a little early, as they will need to wait 15 minutes before joining their teammates.

Appendix 10: Early Childhood Student Mask Policy for CDC Level High

Students ages 2 and up in our mixed-age Kindergarten rooms (Robins, Bluebirds, Redbirds) will be expected to wear masks every day at school when the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is High. Our expectations are:

- They will wear a mask that covers their mouth and nose.
- They will wear a mask that is appropriate for school. We ask that the masks not have media characters on them.
- They will keep their masks on when inside the school building – in classrooms and hallways – except while eating snack and lunch and while napping.
- They can take their masks off when outside.

Faculty and Staff can support them inside by:

- Always wearing their own masks.
- Gently reminding them when they forget to keep it on completely (this can include non-verbal cues such as the teacher touching his or her own nose to remind a student to pull their mask up).
- Spending time outside to provide a break from wearing their mask.
- Taking classes outside as much as possible when the weather is good.
- Making mask wearing part of the daily routine, much like we put on and take off our outdoor gear.
- Sing songs and make poems for mask wearing to share with the children.
- Focusing on the care for ourselves and others that we show by wearing masks.

It is not RSSAA Early Childhood Program's intent to punish children who have difficulty wearing masks, we understand that it is a new task that needs to be learned. Children with sensory challenges can find this particularly difficult. We will actively work with families to encourage and support mask wearing as required. If a student does not meet the mask expectations and is having difficulty wearing a mask, faculty will:

- Encourage the child to wear a mask using supportive guidance listed above.
- Communicate difficulty with parent or guardian outside of school.
- Create a plan with the parent or guardian to help child transition to wearing a mask.

Appendix 11: Admissions Visiting and Tours

As we move towards the 2022-23 School Year, the need for families interested in the school to be able to see inside the school and have their children visit is becoming more pressing. It is important for the family learning about the school to have an opportunity to tour and visit. It is also essential for the faculty and staff of each part of the school to have a chance to see the student in our classrooms, and to be able to assess whether they will be a good fit in the class.

Therefore, we are allowing tours and student visits – in the following ways:

- High School
 - We are opening our doors to individual tours during the day. These tours will look into classrooms with students present but will not join classes or spend more than about 5 minutes in the area of any one group of students.
 - When the CDC level is LOW, tours will include standard access to classrooms and small groups visiting during the day. Parents will be required to be masked.
 - We are allowing serious applicants (those that have completed a tour) to visit and spend a day with a class. Visiting students will be COVID-19 tested before their visit (by RSSAA) and required to wear a high-quality mask at all times they are indoors or in close proximity outdoors (singing and movement).
- Lower School
 - We are opening our doors to individual tours during the day. These fully masked tours will look into classrooms with students present but will not join classes or spend more than about 5 minutes in the area of any one group of students.
 - When the CDC level is LOW, tours will include standard access to classrooms and small groups visiting during the day. Parents will be required to be masked.
 - We are allowing serious applicants classroom visits. Visiting students will be COVID-19 tested before their visit (by RSSAA).
- Early Childhood
 - We are opening our doors to individual tours during the day. These tours of adults will look into classrooms without students present and will observe outdoor play of the Early Childhood classes.
 - When the CDC level is LOW, tours will include standard access to classrooms and small groups visiting during the day. Parents will be required to be masked.

Appendix 12: Details on CDC COVID-19 Community Levels

Full information on the CDC levels can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>

How CDC Measures the COVID-19 Community Levels

CDC looks at the combination of three metrics — new COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population in the past 7 days, the percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients, and total new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days — to determine the COVID-19 community level. New COVID-19 admissions and the percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied represent the current potential for strain on the health system. Data on new cases acts as an early warning indicator of potential increases in health system strain in the event of a COVID-19 surge. Using these data, the COVID-19 community level is classified as low, medium, or high.

The COVID-19 community level is determined by the higher of the new admissions and inpatient beds metrics, based on the current level of new cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days

COVID-19 Community Levels – Use the Highest Level that Applies to Your Community				
New COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

Appendix 13: Resource Page

A variety of resources that we are using, and you might find helpful:

- Mlive summary of COVID-19 Data from the State of Michigan:
<https://www.mlive.com/coronavirus/data/>
- Washtenaw County Health Department COVID-19 Portal:
<https://www.washtenaw.org/3095/COVID-19>
- Washtenaw County Health Department Information about cases in Washtenaw County:
<https://www.washtenaw.org/3108/Cases>
- Washtenaw County Health Department resources for testing in our community:
<https://www.washtenaw.org/3158/Testing>
- CDC COVID data tracker – national to county level: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#datatracker-home>
- State of Michigan information on risk levels and spread of COVID-19:
<https://www.mistartmap.info/>
- CDC COVID-19 Information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- Community members happy to have a conversation to answer questions about COVID-19 and Vaccinations:
 - Holly Murphy – Community member and parent of a 12th, 8th, and EC grade student, who is a board-certified physician in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases and works directly with COVID-19 patients.
 - Kao-Ping Chua - Parent of an EC student and 1st grader and board-certified primary care pediatrician at the University of Michigan who routinely speaks with families about the COVID-19 vaccine for adolescents.