

August 25th, 2021

Dear Compass High School Families,

We learned this morning, Wednesday August 25th, 2021 that a student at CHS has tested positive for COVID-19. The student was last on campus Monday August 23rd, 2021. Due to privacy laws we are unable to release the name of the student. The positive case has been reported to Pima County Health Department officials as required. Students and staff who were in close contact have already been notified by our front office staff. The close contacts will also be notified through the Pima County Health Department and given directions from the health department officials.

NEW - Free Covid Self-Tests to Be Provided with Consent

We understand that Covid tests are becoming increasingly hard to obtain. Because of this, CHS will be providing FREE "BinaxNow Self-Tests" for students to complete at school but administered only by the student themselves (*CHS staff will be available to read directions or verbal guidance to the student if needed*). Results in 15 minutes.

ACTION NEEDED: Students are only eligible to be given this FREE self-test if a parent or guardian has given consent on the e-form located in the Tyler SIS Parent Portal.

Compass High School is not a healthcare provider, and this self-testing does not replace any treatment, care or advice from a medical professional.

Please see this short video about how your student will test themselves if given consent:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AzT_tmJYo4s

Health Mitigation at Compass High School

Our health mitigation plan can be found in its entirety on our [website](#) but we want to emphasize some of the things we are doing here at CHS to protect your student.

Air Filtration

The HVAC system is set to maximize the amount of fresh air coming into the building and minimize recycled air by providing at least three air changes per hour. It is also equipped with air filters to reduce the odor of polluted outside air coming into the building. These filters are being replaced quarterly.

All classrooms have been equipped with [IQAir HealthPro Plus units](#) which are designed to quietly filter the air in a 1,000 square foot classroom every fifteen minutes. This product has HEPA filters and are designed to remove microscopic allergens, dust, bacteria, and virus particles of the smallest sizes.

We are measuring CO2 throughout the building to help us understand air flow balancing and make adjustments as necessary.

Physical Distancing

- Students and staff shall be provided with reminders to stay at least three feet apart from one another.
- Only essential personnel will be permitted on the campus.
- No visitors, including parents/guardians, will be allowed to enter the campus beyond the main office, except those with an appointment.
- Students arriving and leaving campus will be monitored to discourage congregating and ensure students report directly to their designated area, as well as leave promptly upon completion of on-site support services.
- Students will be provided with adequate space for on-site support services to ensure sufficient social distancing at least three feet between students.
- Specific entrance and exit points may be designated when feasible to reduce face-to-face meetings.

Temperature Checks

- Temperature checks will be completed upon arrival every morning.
- Students will enter the main building to have their temperature checked.
 - Students who have a fever or show other symptoms of sickness shall immediately be referred to the front office for evaluation.
 - Students may, if indicated, be placed in a Wellness Room apart from the general school population.
 - Student temperature will be rechecked after 10 minutes.
 - Staff will make reasonable attempts to contact the parent(s) or guardians to take the student home as soon as possible.
 - Parents shall pick up the student, or arrange for the student to be picked up, immediately.
- Students that do not have a fever (over 100.4 degrees) will report directly to their first period.

Water Fountains

- Students are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle.
- Cups will be available to students if they do not have a refillable water bottle.

Communication, Health Education Strategies and Training

- Training will be provided for all employees, students, and parents/guardians on the expected safety protocols, use of PPE, and COVID-19 transmission prevention strategies.

- Staff, parents and students will be encouraged to obtain information from reputable and reliable sources such as the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), or the [Pima County Health Department](#).
- Parents and staff will be required to self-monitor for symptoms daily related to COVID-19 and self-report.
 - People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.
 - [Daily home screening form for students](#)
- Communication and updates may take place via email, robo-calls, personal phone calls, TylerSIS Announcements, Canvas, social media and school webpage.
- COVID-19 signage will be posted and visible throughout campus.
- Signage will be posted at the main entry points requiring that people who have been symptomatic with fever and/or cough not to enter.

Staff, students and their families will be educated about the signs and symptoms of COVID-19, when they should stay home and when they can return to school.

[Announcements from previous letter to CHS Families – 8/17/21](#)

Compass High School Health Mitigation Update:

All of us are concerned about the safety of our families in these challenging times. Our top priority is assuring the safety of our students and staff. We want both our students and employees to feel physically and psychologically safe and cared for in our school. We promise to do everything reasonably possible to protect your children against any threat that may arise while they are in our care. In the spirit of that commitment, we would like to announce:

*Face Coverings will be **mandatory** starting August 18th, 2021.*

Starting August 18th, 2021 and ending September 28th, 2021 face coverings will be required for any person while on CHS property. This policy will be updated before September 29th, 2021. This applies to all individuals, including students, parents/guardians, staff, and visitors.

- All staff, vendors, visitors, and volunteers shall wear a face covering.
- Face coverings can be any cloth or paper mask that covers the nostrils and mouth.
- Face coverings will be made available to staff, students, vendors, and visitors if they do not have one available for use.
- Cloth face coverings shall not be placed on:
 - Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious
 - Anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance

- EXCEPTIONS may be available for individuals with a relevant medical condition or disability for which the Pima County Health Department does not recommend the use of a face covering. For students, these exceptions shall be documented in a [Section 504 Plan](#), Health Care Plan, or by an [IEP Team](#). For students, medical documentation will be required as part of the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act)
- Students who refuse to wear a face covering will be provided an opportunity for remote learning at home.

You can take the following precautions to protect your child and household members from COVID-19 :

- Get vaccinated. Three vaccines are approved for people over age 18 in the Uni. Two vaccines are approved for children age 12 and up.
- IF you are not vaccinated against COVID-19, the Pima County Health Department strongly encourages you to wear a face mask when around others – SEE CHS Mask Mandate.
- Practice Physical distancing as much as possible, keeping 3’-6’ between you and others.
 - Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Take everyday preventive actions, including:
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
 - If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
 - Avoid touching your face, nose, eyes, etc.
 - Clean and disinfect your personal area to remove germs: practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces (for example: tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles desks, toilets faucets, sinks & cell phones)

Established health and safety procedures within classrooms and throughout campus will continue to be practiced.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may call the front office at 520-296-4070 or emailing us at info@compasshighschool.com.

Sincerely,

Kerk Ferguson
Director