

# Flathead High School



**FHS Families,**  
I've enjoyed our first days of school this week. Students are grateful to be back in classes, and teachers are beyond ecstatic to provide in-person instruction once again.

I wanted to update you on procedures for COVID-19 in our school.

## **Protocol for Positive COVID-19 Cases**

As a school, we cooperate with the Flathead City-County Health Department when a student or staff member becomes sick with COVID-19 or is a close contact of a person sick with COVID-19.

Here is the protocol:

- Health department notifies principal of positive case.
- Principal provides health department information about the location of that person in the building. We provide classroom seating charts, bus seating charts, lunch table location, and information about classroom visits before and after school.
- Health department analyzes information and determines who qualifies as a close contact of the sick person.
- Health department contacts parents of students deemed close contacts and provides information about quarantine and testing.

## **Protocol for people who are deemed a close contact of a person with COVID-19**

We cooperate with the Flathead City-County Health Department.

Here is the protocol:

- Health department notifies principal that a student has been identified as a close contact.
- Health department tells principal how long that student must quarantine.
- Parent calls the FHS attendance line to excuse the absences.
- Student connects with his/her teachers about school work during quarantine.

### Lunch Seating Documentation

In lieu of assigning all students who eat the commons to an assigned seat, we allow students to choose a table for lunch and check in through a Google Form.

Here is the protocol:

- Student chooses a lunch table.
- Student uses phone to scan the QR code at the table.
- Student enters first and last name and table number.
- A student without a phone uses a buddy's phone.
- Administrators confirm that all students signed in at each table by checking the Google Spreadsheet.

Additional information:

- The QR code is a link to a simple Google Form.
- Student phone numbers are not collected.
- The only information collected is student name, table number, date, and time.
- FHS Administrators are the only people with access to this information.
- Any parent wishing to opt out, please reach out to me personally. I will assign your child to a table for the semester that does not have the QR code process associated with it. Assigned students must sit at this table each day.



### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Do you test students for COVID?** No, we are not equipped for COVID testing nor is that our responsibility.

**A student in my child's class is out sick. Will I get notified if it is COVID-19?** You will get notified only if the health department deems your child to be a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19. If you don't get notified, all is well.

**Why is there open campus for students in grades 10-12?** If we closed campus, we would not have capacity to seat 750 students during each lunch.

**Will you monitor students who leave in their cars at lunch time?** No, we do not have the ability to monitor how many students are in each car or where they go. Please talk with your child about where he/she eats lunch.

**Health and Safety Have Top Priority**

Flathead High School and Kalispell Public Schools follow guidelines from our local county health department. During the COVID 19 pandemic, we use their guidance, plus mandates and recommendations from the state and other organizations such as the CDC and American Academy of Pediatrics to create a safe environment for students and staff. Here is the link to the Kalispell Public Schools operational document:

[KPS Pandemic Operational Guidance](#)

**As always, do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. You can respond to this email or call me directly at 751-3650.**

**Michele Paine, Principal**



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