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**Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District**  
**BAY PATH REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL**  
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Nancy Ferriter-Alpine  
Pupil Services Director  
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Dear Parent/Caregiver,

The health and safety of the children in our community is our number one priority. We have all been experiencing a new way of life with the Coronavirus. Now that some parts of our lives are making their way back to a new "normal", we want you to be prepared for some of the changes that you and your child will experience when they attend Bay Path for summer learning.

Please review the new COVID Guidelines that have been instituted by the DESE, Department of Health and Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School. We continue to strive to ensure the health and well-being of all staff and students.

Sincerely,

Nancy Ferriter-Alpine

Pupil Services Director

## **Mitigation and Safety Strategies during Bay Path's Summer Program**

While Bay Path will be implementing some new strategies to mitigate the spread of the virus during our summer program, it should be understood from the beginning that the essential policies that we have had in place since the start of the 2020-2021 school year will remain as foundational rules within the school.

### **Ongoing Mitigation Policies and Practices –**

For summer programs: Masking indoors and maintaining other health and safety guidance is not required, but is encouraged. The DESE summer guidance is in alignment with the state guidance encouraging unvaccinated individuals to continue to mask. The DPH mask advisory advises unvaccinated residents to continue wearing masks in indoor settings and when they can't socially distance. Proof of vaccination must be documented if masks are not being worn. Please e-mail [nalpine@baypath.net](mailto:nalpine@baypath.net) with your proof of vaccination or exemption if you choose to not wear a mask. Proof of documentation will be shared with staff at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School.

- **Physical Distancing** - Physical distancing is another important practice that helps mitigate transmission of the virus. At this time, the Center for Disease Control has recommended maintaining a physical distance of at least three feet between individuals as long as everyone is properly wearing a mask. It is important to note that six feet distancing is emphasized in public health advisories when no mask/face covering is worn. This would include during lunches as masks are removed to eat. Therefore, we will continue to maintain six feet of distancing in all dining areas.
- **Hygiene and Handwashing Safety** - Handwashing removes pathogens from the surface of the hands. Therefore, students and staff should exercise hand hygiene (handwashing or sanitizing) upon arrival to school, before eating, before putting on and taking off masks, and before dismissal. Hand sanitizer stations are located throughout the building.
- **Daily Self-screening** - Checking for symptoms each morning by families and caregivers will continue to serve as the primary screening mechanism for COVID-19 symptoms and is critical to maintaining a healthy environment. Throughout the year, Bay Path has limited the need to quarantine individuals due to contact tracing because families had made the wise decision to keep a student home from school once they began to experience COVID-related symptoms or if a member of the household had been diagnosed positive for the virus. It is essential that we continue these efforts and that families contact our school nurse, whenever a student experiences symptoms.

## Quarantine

- The quarantine period for someone who has been deemed close contact to a COVID positive will be 10 days., **you must** have a negative PCR test done on day 7 and be asymptomatic. If you choose not to test, the quarantine period will remain 14 days.
- If you live with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and you choose not to be tested, you must remain out of school for 24 days, (14 days of initial quarantine plus additional 10 days of quarantine). If you choose to test you must test on day 7 of your quarantine and be symptom free, then you may return to school after the 14 days.

## Contact Tracing

- A fully vaccinated individual or an individual that can provide proof of COVID-19 positivity within the last 90 days, does not need to quarantine if in close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual.
- Close contacts who were exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual in the classroom or on the bus while both individuals were masked do not quarantine unless they were within 3 feet of distance to the COVID-19 positive individual for a total of greater than 15 minutes in a 24-hour period. If the exposure was outside the classroom or bus, or if masks were not worn by both persons at the time of exposure, see above quarantine guidance.

## Ongoing Building Management and Operations

- **Cleaning and Disinfecting** - Throughout the day, custodial staff will be assigned to provide routine cleaning of utilized spaces as well as disinfection of frequently touched surfaces such as door handles, handrails, light switches and restrooms. Additionally, faculty and staff members will continue to be provided with safe disinfectant sprays and wipes in order to disinfect touched surfaces in their area after each class or lunch is dismissed. Examples include tables, desks, counters, keyboards, tools and equipment. If it becomes known that an area has been exposed to a positive COVID-19 case, the area affected will be shut down immediately and a deep cleaning and disinfecting will take place before reopening.