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Health and Safety Plan for Summit School of the Poconos, 2021-2022

This Health and Safety Plan addresses how Summit School of the Poconos will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and will serve as local guidelines for all instructional and non-instructional school activities during the 2021-2022 school year. It is tailored to the unique needs of our school and is created in consultation with local, state, and national health agencies as well as the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Feedback from the stakeholders of our school community has also been carefully considered in the creation of this policy.

Given the dynamic nature of the ongoing pandemic, we've aimed to incorporate enough prevention and mitigation practices recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to establish and maintain a full in-person instructional program for all students and staff throughout the 2021-22 school year while honoring our community's concerns.

This Health and Safety Plan has been approved by our Board of Directors and posted on the school's publicly available website.

Summit School of the Poconos will review its Health and Safety Plan periodically and update as needed and in response to significant changes to the recommendations and/or mandates for K-12 schools. All revisions will be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors prior to posting on our public website.

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Health and Safety Plan Summary: Summit School of the Poconos, 2021-2022

Initial Effective Date: August 23, 2021 Date of Last Review: December 2, 2021 Date of Last Revision: December 2, 2021

Prevention and Mitigation Strategies for Continuous, Safe Operation of In-Person Learning

Summit School of the Poconos recognizes that operating our school program and facility safely and continuously in an in-person format while honoring the unique needs of our community will require us to maximize the effectiveness of indoor air quality turnover and filtration systems and to use outdoor spaces frequently.

Continuity of Services

While the safety of our students, staff, and families is our highest priority, we also aim to ensure to the greatest extent possible that our educational services are not disrupted this year by COVID-related outbreaks that could call for a switch to remote learning. We recognize that the ripple effect of such a closure would impact families, adult work schedules, and childcare provisions. In order to prevent such disruptions, we will maintain practices utilized in the spring of 2021, such as physical distancing, cleanliness, hand washing and/or sanitizing, reduced use of shared learning materials, regular ventilation, and filtering of indoor air. Additionally, in the event of an infection or outbreak, we will participate in contact-tracing and communicating appropriately.

CDC Safety Recommendation (*ARP **ESSER Requirement)	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>	SSP will adhere to prevailing orders from the PA Department of Health regarding face coverings. Absent a contrary order, students and staff will not be required to wear face coverings during learning activities, but those who wish to wear a mask may do so. Anyone who needs a mask break will be accomodated. SSP will continue to provide educational posters/signage encouraging proper mask wearing. SSP will continue to monitor the data and recommendations while staying in communication with our community of parents, students, and staff.

It is a priority at SSP to stay open for in-person instruction five days a week, and we will reevaluate our mask policy if needed in order to help promote this. Please check with your transporting school district in regards to mask requirements on school busses. These requirements are outside of the purview of Summit School.
 Students will be equipped with their own learning materials. Shared classroom materials will be sanitized after each use. Outdoor spaces will be utilized frequently for fresh-air learning opportunities. Transitioning between rooms will be minimized and when groups of students must use hallways, they will do so in a staggered manner, with individual students spaced apart, to eliminate chances of according.
crowding. To minimize increased exposure to persons outside each household, snacks and meals will be consumed in the Home Bases. Outdoor snack/meal time may be an option for consideration at each teacher's discretion. Summit School student groups interchange as a valued component of our model. Because our population is small, we believe we can utilize technology and outdoor space to continue mixed-age group opportunities without increasing exposure unnecessarily between home-base groups. Contact tracing will remain manageable at all
times if needed. Refer to sending district transportation protocols if your child/ren will utilize public school transportation options.
Frequent hand washing and/or sanitizing will be encouraged, particularly before and after eating or using the restroom. Students and staff will be encouraged to sneeze and cough into elbows, rather than hands. If hands are used, they should be immediately washed or sanitized.
Shared classroom items will be cleaned/disinfected between uses. Each student's belongings will be kept separated from others' and, where possible and appropriate, in individually labeled containers, cubbies, lockers or other areas.

improving <u>ventilation</u>	Adequate supplies will minimize sharing of high touch materials to the greatest extent possible or they'll be limited to one group of students at a time and disinfected in between uses. Student restrooms will be surface-cleaned twice daily. Surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day. School HVAC circulates indoor air regularly, and classroom filters further improve indoor air quality. Regular professional cleaning of the facilities will be maintained throughout the school year.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments.	Careful records of occupancy of indoor spaces that are utilized by different populations, such as the school's Conference Room, offices (Main, Principal's, and Guidance offices), and Community Room will work in conjunction with Home Base daily attendance to support contract tracing if/when necessary. All SSP employees and students will participate in daily COVID screening upon entry to the building (accessible through our SIS, Teacherease, as well as paper forms at entrance). Families and staff are asked to contact School Administration (sspadmin@summitschoolpoconos.org) immediately when a
	 positive case is known. A student or staff member who tested positive will provide a negative test or follow the quarantine duration guidelines (listed below and linked in left column) before returning to school. If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID, SSP will inform the school community via Remind and follow reporting requirements as set out by the Pennsylvania Departments of Health and Education. Quarantine and Isolation Procedures:
	 Quarantine for 14 days after exposure if you have been in close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19, unless you have been fully vaccinated. How to Quarantine:

 Stay home for 14 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19. Watch for fever (100.4°F), cough, shortness of breath, or other <u>symptoms</u> of COVID-19. If possible, stay away from people you live with, especially people who are at higher risk for getting very sick from COVID-19.
• How to reduce guarantine time:
 If 10 days pass after exposure with no onset of <u>symptoms</u> and no COVID test If 7 days pass after exposure with no onset of symptoms and a COVID test (administered on or after day 5) shows negative result
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 Quarantine Exemptions: People who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine after contact with someone who was COVID-19 positive unless they have <u>symptoms</u>. Fully vaccinated people should get tested 5-7 days after their exposure, even if they don't have symptoms. Fully vaccinated people should wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until their test result is negative. Isolation when tested positive for COVID-19 should occur at home for at least 10 days after the onset of symptoms. More information on isolation can be found <u>here</u>.
Students advised to quarantine due to potential exposure outside of school should stay home.
Students who must quarantine from the school community, or who must remain outside of school for other COVID-related issues will be provided with instructional materials and links to stay connected with peer groups and teachers and to keep up with course content and projects. Instructions on how to maintain attendance from home will also be provided.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for Summit School of the Poconos reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **December 2, 2021**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

7 Yes 0_**No**

Affirmed on: **December 2, 2021** By: Jennifer Olson

(Signature* of Board President)

Jennifer Olson

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.