



# SCHOOL TOWN OF HIGHLAND

*Educating Today's Students for Tomorrow's Challenges*

**9145 Kennedy Avenue  
Highland, IN 46322**

**Phone: (219) 924-7400  
Fax: (219) 922-5637**

Due to increased positivity rates throughout Lake County, new information on the more contagious COVID Delta variant strain and students under twelve still unable to get vaccinated, STOH will be requiring masks for students preschool through sixth grade for the start of the 2021-22 school year. Staff members working with students in preschool through sixth grade will be required to wear a mask if they cannot provide proof of vaccination.

Students and staff in grades seven through twelve have the opportunity to get the COVID vaccination and will still be highly recommended to wear masks. As always, we will continue to monitor county and state trends. But most importantly we will be tracking and reporting our internal positivity rates in order to guide our decisions on any changes to mask requirements going forward.

Our goal is to return to masking being a personal choice, but the CDC, Lake County Health Department, and Indiana Health Department guidance along with our internal trends will determine when that will be a safe reality. Your patience, understanding, and support are appreciated.

Below are attachments to procedures all STOH schools will be using with regard to illnesses related and unrelated to Covid for the 2021-22 school year. Each Friday afternoon, we will continue to update a weekly Covid Dashboard found linked on the district's homepage. As we did last year, we will also send letters out to the affected school communities when we have cases.

[Close Contact flowchart](#)

[Called off/sent home for illness flowchart](#)

We are also asking all staff and parents who are willing to share a copy of their proof of vaccination to utilize the following email address: [sinfo@highland.k12.in.us](mailto:sinfo@highland.k12.in.us).

Sharing proof of vaccination is completely voluntary, but doing so will help our nursing and administrative staff during contact tracing to avoid undue quarantine time for those who are vaccinated and showing no symptoms. If you choose to share proof of vaccination, please use the subject line of the email to identify yourself as staff or student, the name or initials of your school, and then first and last name. In the body of the email you can upload a picture of your vaccination card or scan a copy of the doctor's paperwork listing the dates when your shots were given.

example subject line: student SR - Jane Doe                      or                      staff WN - John Doe