9145 Kennedy Avenue Highland, IN 46322 Phone: (219) 924-7400 Fax: (219) 922-5637

Beginning September 7, 2021 STOH will be requiring masks for all students and staff preschool through twelfth grade. This change was made in response to the most recent executive order signed by Governor Holcomb stating any district requiring masks will no longer need to quarantine asymptomatic close contacts out of school. This change is reflected in the close contact flowchart linked below.

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: <a href="mailto:sinfo@highland.k12.in.us">sinfo@highland.k12.in.us</a>.

Sharing proof of vaccination is completely voluntary. 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