

## **Business/Non-Instructional Operations**

### **Health and Safety Protocols Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

The CREC Council (“Council”) recognizes the importance of developing health and safety protocols to protect the health and safety of students, staff, and the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Council thus directs the Administration to develop health and safety protocols consistent with applicable laws, rules, regulations, requirements, and current guidance.

Compliance with such health and safety protocols shall be mandatory for all individuals while on CREC property or participating in a CREC-sponsored activity, unless a legally recognized exemption or exception applies. Failure to comply with such health and safety protocols may lead to disciplinary action for students and staff, in accordance with applicable laws, rules, regulations, and/or CREC policies.

The Administration shall provide notice of such health and safety protocols, by way of electronic mail, regular mail, website posting, student handbooks, employee handbooks, and/or any other appropriate methods.

Legal Reference:        Connecticut General Statutes  
                                 10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures

Other

Adapt, Advance, Achieve: Connecticut’s Plan to Learn and Grow Together, Connecticut State Department of Education (Updated August 3, 2020)

Policy adopted: October 14, 2020

CAPITOL REGION EDUCATION COUNCIL  
Hartford, Connecticut

## **Business/Non-Instructional Operations**

### **Health and Safety Protocols Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

The following health and safety protocols are issued consistent with applicable laws, rules, regulations, requirements, and current guidance, in order to protect the health and safety of students, staff, and the community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Applicable laws, rules, regulations, requirements, and guidance may change rapidly in response to the pandemic. Any updates or changes to these health and safety protocols will be posted on the CREC website and will be available at each school/program.

### **COVID-19 Health and Safety Liaison**

David Cusick, Managing Director of Health Services, will serve as the COVID-19 Health and Safety Compliance Liaison. He will be responsible for engaging with students, parents, faculty, staff, and administrators to answer questions or concerns about health and safety requirements regarding COVID-19 and to provide information on public health policies and protocols.

### **Vaccinations**

Vaccinations are the first and most important line of defense in preventing respiratory diseases such as COVID-19 and influenza. Staff and students are encouraged to receive both a COVID-19 vaccine and a seasonal vaccine for influenza.

Staff and volunteers in Head Start programs must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19, with the exception of those: a) for whom a vaccine is medically contraindicated; b) for whom medical necessity requires a delay in vaccination; or c) who are legally entitled to a reasonable accommodation under federal civil rights laws because they have a disability or sincerely held religious beliefs, practices, or observances that conflict with the vaccination requirement.

### **Face masks/coverings**

CREC supports students and staff who choose to continue wearing a face mask even when not required.

Students and staff with mild respiratory disease symptoms who meet the requirements for attending in person shall be strongly encouraged to wear a well-fitting mask indoors.

### **Facilities**

CREC will maintain routine cleaning and disinfection protocols for all classroom surfaces and common areas.

CREC will manage ventilation to ensure maximum delivery of fresh outdoor air to occupied spaces, appropriate filtration of any recirculated air, and use of outdoor spaces to the extent possible.

**Staying at home**

Students and staff with mild respiratory disease symptoms (e.g., infrequent cough, congestion, runny nose, sore throat, etc.) may continue attending in person, provided:

- they are fever-free (<100°F) and feel well enough to participate;
- they do not live with anyone who has had COVID-19 in the past two weeks;
- they can wear a mask consistently and correctly; and
- they test negative for COVID-19 prior to reporting in-person on every day they have symptoms, as well as on one final test on the morning the symptoms have completely resolved.

Students and staff must inform the school/program if they test positive with COVID-19.

Students and staff who have any respiratory disease symptoms must stay home until their symptoms resolve and they test negative for COVID-19 if:

- they have a fever ( $\geq 100^\circ\text{F}$ ) or feel feverish (they should not report in-person until their fever has resolved and they are fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of medication);
- they live with a person who recently tested positive for COVID-19 within the past two weeks.

Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 must complete isolation in accordance with the CDC Quarantine and Isolation Calculator

Regulation issued: September 16, 2020

Revised: September 15, 2021

Revised: September 21, 2022

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