**From:** Mr. Webber <ewebber@immaculatahighschool.org>

Subject: COVID Updates 3/23/21



To: Immaculata Community

From: Mr. Webber, Dean of Students

Re: COVID Updates/Reminders

With renewed hope, we are asking for the continued support and cooperation of the Immaculata Community. For over a year, we have been working through this crisis and, with the cooperation and dedication of our staff, parents and students, we have been able to do some amazing things this year.

As the world around us begins to open, we believe that Immaculata is well positioned to put more and more of our school life back on track with each and every passing week. Vaccinations of our faculty are on the move. We are discussing ways to put our 'typical' spring schedule of events in place, with adjustments. In short, we are moving as fast as we can while maintaining the safety of our community.

The past two weeks have been a reminder that we still must remain vigilant. Please know that Immaculata (and Immaculate Conception School) are desperately trying to not over quarantine students and staff. But, we need your help! Below is a list of COVID reminders and requests. Please note these requests and know that they come from a real effort to keep us on track.

- 1. COVID Positive Students: If you are COVID positive, you must quarantine 10 days before returning to school. The test date is day 0.
- 2. COVID TESTING: If you are awaiting test results, please do NOT return to school. If you are being tested, it is because of close contact and/or a suspicion that you may be positive. Please, please, please... wait for the results, then return.
- 3. Required Quarantine: If you are not allowed to come to school, this is because you are considered to have been in close contact with a COVID positive individual. This means, you should not be out in the public either! Certainly not working a job, attending events, etc. Unfortunately, last week Somerset/Hunterdon counties (Central West) were moved back into the 'orange' zone. This means we are back to the 14 day quarantine, instead of the shorter period we were using, until further notice. I know this is frustrating, but it is what it is. PLEASE STAY HOME if you are on required quarantine from school due to close contact. While we are in 'Orange,' students may NOT return to school before the end of the 14 days regardless of any COVID testing that is done. Again, we are desperately trying to contact trace issues that arise and not over quarantine.

- 4. Virtual Companion: As we move into the 4th quarter, the virtual companion will be for students that are on required quarantine from us and/or have a DOCUMENTED medical reason to not be in school. Regardless, the academic office will require a doctor's note. Students will not be placed on the Virtual Companion until we receive a positive COVID test and/or they are placed on required quarantine due to close contact. Students awaiting test results are considered absent, please reach out to your teachers for any work missed. These medical reasons must be COVID related. Other medical reasons that require absence from school will have to be handled individually, in the traditional way.
- 5. Spring Break: We will be returning to in person instruction on Tuesday April 13th. We will not be virtual that week. Students that travel during spring break will be required to follow the NJ Travel guidelines, which currently includes a 14 day quarantine if traveling outside of the Tri-State Area. If you plan to travel over break, please let the Academic Office know by Monday March 29th so that we put you on the Virtual Companion before we return. Requests to go virtual made over Spring Break will not be activated until we return and may result in absences.

We thank you so much for the continued support and attention to these details. Immaculate Heart of Mary, Pray for Us!

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