

## **COVID-19 ADDENDUM TO THE HANDBOOK**

### **2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR**

This COVID-19 Addendum highlights some of the major ways in which the expectations outlined in the Handbook will differ in the 2022-2023 school year. Not every change is or could be noted. Please consult with the Dean's Office if you have questions. Middlesex may make further modifications to the Handbook or this Addendum at any time to address changing circumstances. Further modifications will be communicated to students and parents as situations warrant.

#### **Community Expectations**

A critical component of Middlesex School's ability to return to campus and protect the health and safety of the Middlesex community through the COVID-19 pandemic is a series of expectations of how members of the community will live, work and learn together. Because COVID-19 infects individuals by spreading across and within close community networks, it is essential that every one of us in the community enter into a shared obligation and commitment to act prudently, safely, and in accordance with School and public health directives.

In order to enter the Middlesex campus, all community members will be required to acknowledge the 2022-2023 Statement of Community Understanding and pledge to adhere to the accompanying standards and protocols. (This will be done by signing the Deans Acknowledgement of the Handbook and Covid-19 Addendum to the Handbook in Magnus) Despite the implementation of these standards and protocols, it is still possible that a community or their family member can test positive for Covid19 and become ill. It is not possible for any community to eliminate or definitively prevent COVID-19 or any other illness. With those facts acknowledged, the purpose of these standards and protocols is to reduce and mitigate risk of infection with the goals of: 1) keeping all community members safe and healthy; 2) keeping the families of all community members safe and healthy, and 3) continuing to provide our high quality Middlesex education.

#### Statement of Community Understanding:

*I understand that Middlesex has adopted the following standards and protocols to promote the collective well-being of the community.*

*I understand that my ability to engage in School activities is conditional to my adherence to these standards and protocols.*

*I understand that these standards and protocols may change at the direction of the School or state, local, or federal health organizations, and I agree to abide by these changes.*

*If I test positive for COVID-19, or if I am deemed a 'close contact' of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, I agree to follow isolation and other requirements as deemed appropriate by the Health Center and/or Concord Board of Health.*

*I understand that if I cannot be in person for COVID-19 related reasons as determined by the Health Center, I will only be able to access classes via Zoom synchronously while in isolation.*

*I understand that these protocols are designed to mitigate rather than eliminate the risk of COVID-19. I understand I might get sick despite the School's mitigation protocols.*

#### Community Standards and Protocols:

- For the academic year 2022-23, all students are required to be fully vaccinated with an FDA-EUA approved COVID-19 vaccine more than 14 days prior to their arrival to campus. Medical and religious exemptions are allowed in accordance with the Massachusetts state bylaws.

- Students will monitor themselves for symptoms of acute respiratory illness (including dry cough, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell), a fever of 100.4° F or higher, or signs of a fever, ("Symptoms of COVID-19") and immediately report any such symptoms to the Wellness Center. Students who have

tested positive for COVID-19 are required to remain isolated according to CDC guidance. We expect students to be fully transparent about their symptoms and Covid-19 testing results. Further, students must not discourage other students from disclosing their own symptoms or test results.

- Students will participate willingly in a wellness check if requested by a faculty or staff member and respond to such inquiries as soon as possible. Students will participate in testing protocols as deemed necessary by the School.

- Students will wash their hands frequently and follow other best practices of hygiene, including any disinfecting protocols required in the classroom, dining hall, and dorm.

- Community members will willingly comply with the School's policy on masks, which is subject to change based on guidance from the Wellness Center and the Board of Health.

- We request that all students be vaccinated with Influenza Vaccine once it is available to fully engage all public health measures toward a healthier campus.

**Students who do not comply with the health and safety protocols outlined above or who violate the Statement of Community Understanding may be asked to meet with the Deans and may face disciplinary action.**

Extended Campus Closings: If the School closes its campus for an extended period of time due to a health, safety or other emergency situation, the School may continue to operate on a distance-learning basis. The School may also add weekend classes, extend the school year, and/or make other adjustments to the School's calendar to complete the academic term.