



Scecina Memorial High School 2021-2022 Start of School COVID-19 Protocols and Information

Introduction

This summer has brought about many reasons to be hopeful for a safe and healthy new school year. We hope that the summer has been a time of recharge and rest for you and your loved ones. You have remained in our prayers at Scecina.

We look forward to beginning classes on Tuesday, August 10 at 8:15 a.m. While our city, state, country, and world have witnessed many advancements in public health relative to COVID-19, I want to share the following health protocols from the Marion County Public Health Department, Office of Catholic Schools, and Scecina administration. I remain optimistic that the momentum gained this summer will continue and the entire Scecina community will be able to share in a wonderful, event-filled school year.

Please read further regarding the health protocols with which we will begin the new school year. In the event that public health realities cause a change in our plan, we will notify you as proactively as possible. Feel free to contact me with any questions or input you may have, and thank you in advance for your partnership in the education of your child.

God bless,
David Dellacca, Principal

Importance of Vaccinations

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics, Indiana State Department of Health, and the Marion County Public Health Department continue to state that vaccination is the best way to prevent community spread of the COVID-19 virus. **If you are fully vaccinated, thank you for taking this course of action.** If you and/or your student are not fully vaccinated, we sincerely ask you to complete this course of action presuming that it would not place you at risk. **The COVID-19 vaccine is free and widely available.** Here is a link with further information:

<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine/index.htm>

Individuals are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after the final injection of their vaccination cycle. An individual having a positive antibody test in the absence of vaccination is not sufficient to be considered fully vaccinated. According to the CDC and Indiana State Department of Health, fully vaccinated students and staff are exempt from close contact quarantines if they remain asymptomatic of the COVID-19 virus.

Disclosure Honesty

Throughout this document, the scenarios that are presented (and those yet to be known to us) will require honest and open dialogue as well as selfless individual choices made by staff, students, and family members. The success of the school year depends on this honest communication and reporting from affected person to the school nurse, or, if not available, to Mr. Dellacca (principal) or Mr. Therber (president).

Masks

After consultation with the Marion County Public Health Department, the archdiocesan Office of Catholics Schools permits individual schools to *recommend* wearing masks while *not requiring* all students and staff to wear masks during the school day. This permission includes a strong appeal to unvaccinated persons to wear masks. Scecina joins in this appeal to unvaccinated persons. Therefore, Scecina is strongly recommending the use of masks by unvaccinated students and staff. Vaccinated students and staff may choose to wear a mask. Based on federal mandate, every student and staff member must wear a mask during a school-sanctioned bus ride to and from a school activity.

Distancing

Classroom, cafeteria, and gym seating will maintain 3 feet of spacing between persons during the school day as guided by the Marion County Public Health Department's public health order.

Students will collaborate with their peers through group work, lab partners, classroom discussions, and interactive learning environments throughout the school day.

This spacing requirement is not in effect for spectator seating outside of the school day at school-sanctioned events and competitions.

Remote Learning for COVID-related Absences

If and when necessary for a student to work from home for a specified period of time, Scecina is committed to supporting him or her. In such an event, your child's school counselor will work with our teachers and you and will communicate a remote learning plan for your child. This plan will include an overview of the expectations and resources available for each class.

Additionally, teachers will provide information at the beginning of the school year and will provide ongoing support to students so that each child is aware of expectations for completing coursework from home. As always, please reach out to your child's teacher or school counselor with any questions or concerns.

Approved COVID-19 Medically Supervised Tests

Any COVID-19 test results provided to the school must show evidence of the test being administered by a medical services provider under supervision of a medical professional. A medically supervised test result is the only type of result that will be accepted by the school. This documentation must be provided to the school nurse or main office in its entirety.

School Nurse

Scecina Memorial is pleased to partner with Franciscan Health again during the 2021 – 2022 year to have a school nurse. Please note below important information relating to the role of the school nurse.

- Upon entry to the nurse's office, students and staff may be asked to wear a face mask. If this is the case, and the student or staff member does not have a face mask, Scecina will provide a face mask.
- If a student exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 upon check-in or during the school day, the student's parent/guardian will be contacted to pick up the student from Scecina as soon as possible. In these cases, students will be able to return to school once a negative medically supervised COVID-19 test result has been obtained and COVID-19 symptoms have improved or been resolved.
- If a family declines medically supervised COVID-19 testing requested by the school, the student will need to isolate at home for 10 days and be fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication before returning to school. If a parent presents documentation from a healthcare provider stating that a non-COVID-19 illness is the cause of symptoms, the school will follow the healthcare provider's recommendation.

Daily Attendance and Use of Self-Screening Form

Scecina will continue to expect students and staff to remain home when experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19.

Students and staff expectations include completing and submitting an electronic COVID-19 symptom self-screening form prior to arriving on campus every day for school and completing an electronic form prior to participating in sports or other activities, even if a screening form has been completed earlier in the day for school. Students and staff members are to stay home (for at least the day reporting occurs) and not attend practices, competitions, and activities for either or both of the following reasons:

- Exhibiting 2 or more unexplained [symptoms associated with COVID-19](#), or
- An unvaccinated staff member or student experiences [close contact](#) (defined as a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period of time) with a person who is currently positive for COVID-19.

Students will check-in each morning upon arrival on campus for school at Door 1 (main office) or Door 3 (East gym entrance).

[Click here to access the screening form for students](#). This form can also be found on the student page (<https://scecina.org/students>) and the parent page

(<https://scecina.org/parents>) of Scecina's website.

All student absences from school are to be reported to the main office at 317-356-6377 prior to the start of the school day, which is 8:15 a.m.

If a student or staff member must be absent due to exhibiting 2 or more [symptoms associated with COVID-19](#), students and staff members will receive a follow-up call from our school nurse to discuss the person's symptoms and a plan for the person to return to school.

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 after taking a medically supervised COVID-19 test at any point during the school year, please report the positive test to the school nurse, or, if not available, the main office at 317-356-6377. It is essential that Scecina is notified immediately of a confirmed positive medically supervised test case to enable the school administration and nursing staff to make an immediate and appropriate response.

Cleaning Procedures

Scecina will continue disinfecting high touch points throughout the school day with approved disinfectant. Cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer will be available for all classrooms and meeting spaces.

Students and staff are encouraged and given the opportunity to wash hands frequently; hand sanitizer is readily available in common areas, classrooms, hallways, and other places where washing hands in a sink is not possible.

Touchless faucets and water dispensers will remain in place.

We also strongly encourage students and staff to have their own personal supply of hand sanitizer readily available.

Mass and Retreats

Scecina will celebrate in-person Mass for students and staff during nearly every week of the school year. If a guest (parent, alumnus, sibling, etc.) wishes to attend an all-school Mass, we will request that the guest request entry at Door #1 on Nowland Avenue and complete the screening form. If the visitor is unvaccinated, we will ask that the visitor wear a mask while at Scecina.

Scecina will also hold in-person retreats this school year.

Athletics, Clubs, and Activities

Students, coaches, and moderators are expected to complete the electronic COVID-19 self-screening form prior to attending before school, after school, or weekend practices, competitions, and activities. Links to student and staff forms are provided earlier in this document. This screening would be a second screening for the student and staff member who is on campus during the school day.

A student, coach, or moderator must remain home or return home immediately (after the coach and/or moderator has ensured proper supervision of student participants) in one or both scenarios in the bulleted list below:

- A student, coach, or moderator is exhibiting 2 or more unexplained [symptoms associated with COVID-19](#).
- An unvaccinated student, coach, or moderator has come into [close contact](#) (defined as a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period of time) with a person who has tested positive from a medically supervised COVID-19 test the day of or the day prior to a practice, competition, or activity held before school, after school, or on the weekend.

If a coach or club/activity moderator has a COVID-19 question or concern, the coach or club/activity moderator shall contact his/her immediate supervisor, who will contact the school nurse to follow the prescribed protocol.

If a student participant (in an athletic or club activity) or parent has a COVID-19 question or concern, the student or parent shall contact the coach or club/activity moderator, who will contact the school nurse to follow the prescribed protocol.

Spectator attendance at competitions and events is not limited at this time.

Medically Supervised Testing Resulting in Confirmed Case of COVID-19

If your child has received a medically supervised COVID-19 test or is awaiting one, please have him or her remain home from school and all school activities at least until the test result is known and communicated to the school nurse, or if not available, by leaving a message with the main office by calling 317-356-6377. Please report to the school nurse or the school office that a medically supervised test is in the process of being scheduled or that you are awaiting the test result, which will allow your student's counselor and teachers to prepare a success plan for any missed days of school.

If a student, or a member of the student's household, receives a positive COVID-19 test result, we ask that an adult family member report the positive test result to the main office at 317-356-6377 immediately.

In reporting a positive COVID-19 test result to the school, please provide this information at the time of your call:

- Person(s) in the family who has tested positive
- Date that the COVID-19 test was administered by a medical professional
- Best contact number(s) to reach a person(s) in the household to discuss the situation.

Buses

Per federal mandates, masks will be required for everyone traveling on school buses. This expectation applies to the use of buses for any club, activity, or athletic event. Hand sanitizer and disinfectant supplies will be available on the buses. Seating charts will be used for each bus ride to aid in contact tracing if necessary.

Visitor Policy

The following restrictions pertaining to visitors to the Scecina campus will remain in effect until further notice:

- All visitors must enter the school building through the main entrance (Door 1 on Nowland Avenue), or, if visiting St. Francis Hall, through the St. Francis Hall visitor entrance facing the school building.
- All visitors must complete a health screening form upon entry.
- If the visitor is unvaccinated, we will ask that the visitor wear a mask while at Scecina.

Scecina COVID-19 Protocol Summary

We have created a summary graphic to highlight key protocols – [click here to view](#).

Other information for the school year

Please click on the links below for more information that will be helpful for the school year.

[Parents](https://www.scecina.org/parents) (<https://www.scecina.org/parents>) (includes access to 2021-22 Printable Academic Calendar with Red/Gold day rotations)

[Students](https://www.scecina.org/students) (<https://www.scecina.org/students>) (includes access to 2021-22 Printable Academic Calendar with Red/Gold day rotations)

[Athletic Calendar](https://scecina.org/athletics/athletics-calendar/) (<https://scecina.org/athletics/athletics-calendar/>)

