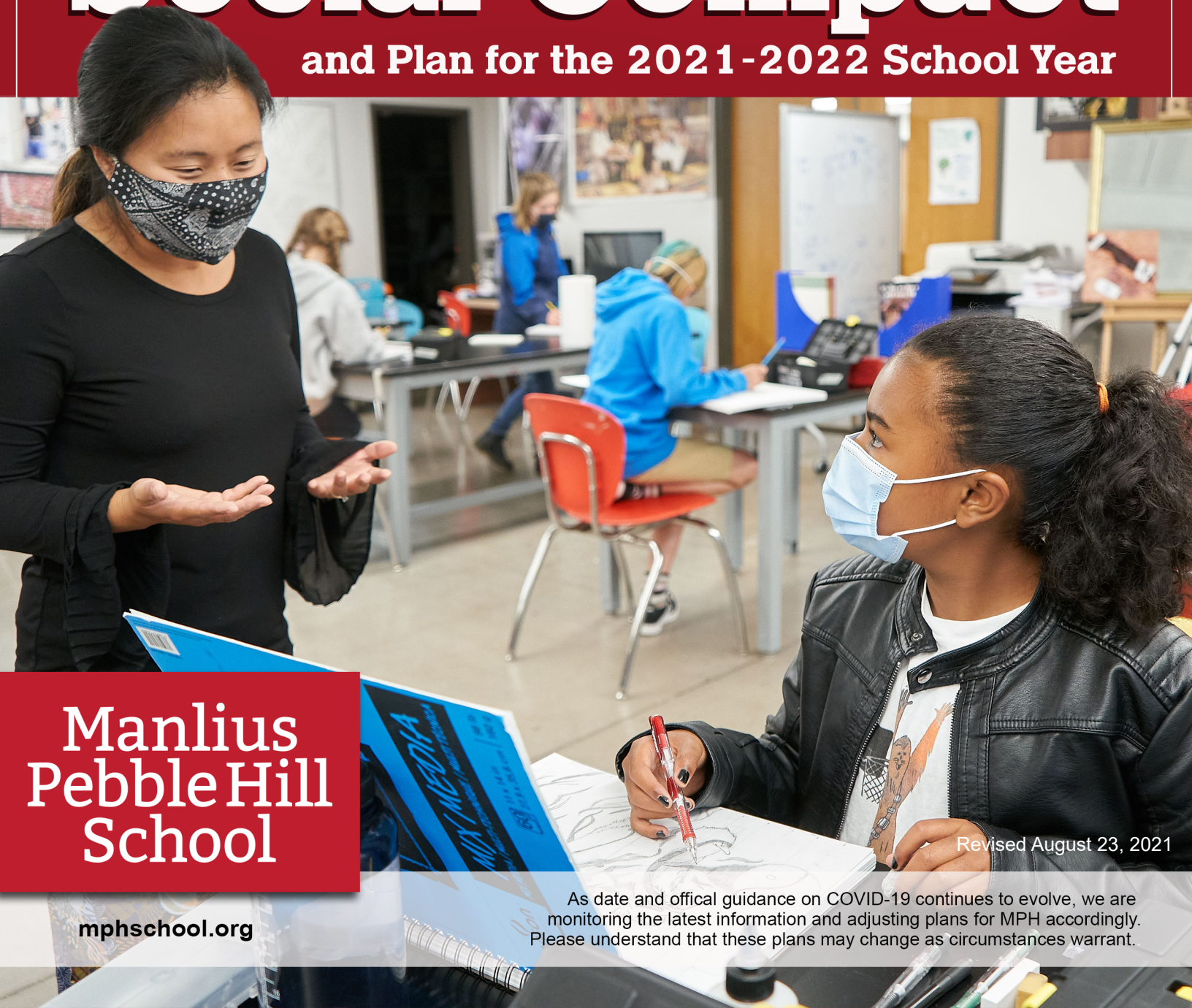


Caring for our collective health, safety, and well-being

# MPH Social Compact

and Plan for the 2021-2022 School Year



Manlius  
Pebble Hill  
School

[mphschool.org](http://mphschool.org)

Revised August 23, 2021

As date and official guidance on COVID-19 continues to evolve, we are monitoring the latest information and adjusting plans for MPH accordingly. Please understand that these plans may change as circumstances warrant.



“ Manlius Pebble Hill School engenders a sense of belonging for all community members by honoring each individual. MPH supports the personal growth of every student and colleague, appreciating that each of us is freely bound in a social compact that ensures we are mindful of one another and that we act with our collective interest in mind. ”



Our Mission and Core Values are posted prominently in every MPH learning space and office. The introduction to our Core Values, quoted above, encapsulates the ethos of the MPH community: Every person is a valued part of an interconnected whole, and each individual's actions affect everyone in the community.

From the beginning of the global pandemic crisis in March 2020, we have tested the strength of the MPH social compact on a daily basis and have found it to be both trustworthy and effective. During 2020-2021, MPH staff, students, and their families worked together to safeguard the health and well-being of every member of our community. By doing so, we were able to achieve a remarkable feat: launching and sustaining safe, effective, daily, in-person teaching and learning for the entirety of the school year in spite of the global pandemic emergency.

Building upon this strong foundation, the *MPH Social Compact and Plan for the 2021-2022 School Year* is designed to guide our community through the ongoing pandemic to ensure that teaching and learning continue with maximum safety and minimal disruption. This plan is based upon the successful *MPH Social Compact and Plan for the 2020-2021 School Year*, on our community's hard-won experience, and on the following official guidance:

- *CDC Guidance on COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools*
- *American Academy of Pediatrics: COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools*
- *New York State Department of Education Health and Safety Guide for the 2021-2022 School Year*
- *CDC COVID-19 Tracker by County*
- *Onondaga County Health Department (OCHD) Guidance for K-12 School Reopening 2021-2022*
- *As of this writing*, we understand that the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) will not be issuing official guidance to schools, deferring instead to local health departments.

## COMMUNICATIONS

MPH will communicate regularly with families to ensure a well-informed partnership. Please check [mphpschool.org/covid](https://mphpschool.org/covid) weekly for updates and instructions. If you have questions about health protocols, COVID testing, or any pandemic-related procedures, please do not ask your child's advisor, division head, or coach. Instead, submit questions to the Health and Safety Team (formerly known as the Pandemic Response Team) via email at [COVIDNurse@mphpschool.org](mailto:COVIDNurse@mphpschool.org). The team will be able to respond most quickly and accurately to your question. Directing questions to the Health and Safety Team will allow advisors, coaches, and division heads to concentrate on delivering the best possible education to students.



# MPH



# COVID-19 Variants and MPH Health Protocols

The Delta variant of COVID-19 has become the primary concern for the coming school year because of its higher rates of transmissibility. MPH will continue to safeguard the health and well-being of the community by employing the layered prevention strategies recommended by health officials to slow the spread of the virus. These include, but are not limited to, our established health protocols such as:

- Screening and monitoring individual and community health
- Urging those who display any signs of infectious illness to stay home and get tested
- Requiring face coverings for everyone – regardless of vaccination status – while indoors
- Cleaning and disinfecting daily
- Maintaining heating ventilation and air conditioning systems to ensure they are delivering filtered, fresh, conditioned air throughout all buildings
- Facilitating the use of outdoor spaces as much as possible
- Encouraging recommended physical distance
- Promoting good hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
- Timely contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation
- Supporting the vaccination process for all community members as vaccines become available
- Providing screening testing as available through the Onondaga County Health Department

## What Is Required of Me / My Child to Safeguard the Health and Well-being of the MPH Community?

**Note: MPH will not use the Magnus App this year.**

The MPH social compact is like a chain that is only as strong as its weakest link. The strength of our defense against the virus relies upon the active engagement and faithful partnership of each of our employees, students, and families. Please read this entire document carefully and check [mphschool.org/covid](https://mphschool.org/covid) regularly for updates. Talk with your child(ren) about what to expect and work together to prepare ahead of time to meet expectations of attending school safely and responsibly.

# HEALTHY GROWTH FOR ALL

**NOTE: In 2021-2022, the Daily Health Assessment will be by this attestation instead of the Magnus app. Please post this prominently in your home as a reminder of the daily requirements for being on campus.**

## **DAILY HEALTH ASSESSMENT (DHA) ATTESTATION**

**By my/my child's arriving on campus, I attest that I have read, understood, and will adhere to the following health and safety protocols:**

---



**Face coverings** are required and are each person's responsibility. Make sure each individual wears a face covering that stays up on their nose and fits well and brings a spare every day.



**Personal, refillable water bottles** are required and are each person's responsibility. Make sure each individual brings a refillable water bottle (no single-use plastic, please) marked with their name on it every day. To prevent the spread of the virus, water fountains remain closed, and cups are not used for snacks or lunch. Since hydration is essential to good health and learning, a personal refillable water bottle is essential equipment for school (the School provides water bottles in emergencies).



**Do not come to campus with any symptoms of COVID-19.** You are required to screen yourself/your child before arrival on campus each day. By you/your child arriving on campus, you are verifying that – regardless of vaccination status – you/your child:

Has no symptoms of COVID-19, which include: headache, sore throat, runny nose, fever, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, or new loss of taste or smell

Has not been in close contact with a person exhibiting any of the symptoms listed above

Does not have a temperature above 100 degrees Fahrenheit

Has taken no medicine to reduce a fever in the past 24 hours

Has not tested positive for COVID-19 any time in the past 10 days

Is not awaiting results of a diagnostic test for COVID-19

Has not been in close contact with a person who has tested positive OR who is awaiting results of a diagnostic test for COVID-19

Has adhered strictly to the latest rules regarding travel according to the New York State Department of Health COVID-19 Travel Advisory



**Notify [COVIDNurse@mphschool.org](mailto:COVIDNurse@mphschool.org) immediately** if you/your child tests positive for COVID-19 or are under county-ordered quarantine for exposure.



**If your child exhibits any symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, you will be asked to pick up your child immediately.** Please update your emergency contact information with several local family members, caregivers, or trusted neighbors who would be able to pick up your child if you are not available to do so.



# AREAS OF EMPHASIS | LISTED ALPHABETICALLY

## ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL (for regular school days)

ARRIVAL	<b>The earliest that students in grades K-12 may be on campus is 7:50 a.m.</b> Please do your best to arrive within these timeframes. We understand that some families have children in more than one division.	
	<b>PRE-K STUDENTS ONLY</b>	Rolling drop off beginning at 7:30 a.m.   Parents /guardians should park at the Center for Early Learning (CEL) and escort their child(ren) to the entrance.
	<b>LOWER SCHOOL (K-grade 5)</b>	8:00 - 8:10 a.m.   Drop off at Phoenix entrance.
	<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS</b>	7:50 a.m.   Drop off at McNeil entrance.
	<b>UPPER SCHOOL</b>	7:50 a.m.   Drop off at Phoenix entrance.
Students must be dropped off on campus at their division's designated entrances (not across the street in the church parking lot or along Jamesville Road).  Pre-K / CEL families only should use the lane and parking spaces in front of the CEL.		

DISMISSAL	<b>PREK STUDENTS ONLY</b>	Rolling pick up anytime between 3:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Parents / guardians should park in the CEL parking lot and escort their child(ren) to the car.
	<b>LOWER SCHOOL (K-grade 5)</b>	3:00 p.m.   Pick up at the gym entrance (across from the tennis courts), and use Poole Road exit.
	<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS</b>	3:15 - 3:25 p.m.   Pick up at the gym entrance (across from the tennis courts), and use Poole Road exit. (Middle School students who are not picked up by 3:25 p.m. go to After Hours.)
	<b>UPPER SCHOOL</b>	3:15 - 3:25 p.m.   Pick up from the Phoenix entrance.
As with arrivals, Pre-K / CEL families only should use the lane and parking spaces in front of the CEL. Buses only should use the bus lane; please do not pick up students from this lane, even if there are no buses present. Students must be picked up on campus, not across the street in the church parking lot or along Jamesville Road.		

## **ATHLETICS** (See Co-curricular Activities)

## **BAND, ORCHESTRA, AND CHORUS**

Lower School: Students will have masked/distance music classes and dance classes as well as strings lessons | band (wind) instrument lessons. Details TBD.

Middle and Upper School details TBD.

## **BEFORE / AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

**Lower School:** Extended Day will be offered Pre-K through 5 from 3:00-5:30 p.m. | students in Pre-K will be in the CEL. Students in K-5 will be in the Dining Hall and/or Bradlee classrooms.

**Middle School:** After Hours will be offered for students in 6th-8th grades and will finish by 5:30 p.m. The After Hours program will be held in the Barn

## **BUS TRANSPORTATION**

Face coverings must be worn by every person on the bus, regardless of vaccination status.

## **CAMPUS STORE**

Until further notice, the Campus Store remains closed in accordance with MPH health and safety protocols.

## **CLEANING / DISINFECTING**

MPH adheres to CDC guidelines for cleaning and disinfection.

## **CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

*As of this writing*, MPH co-curricular activities are TBD. Given the ever-changing nature of the virus, as well as what we learn as we monitor the many variables of the pandemic, MPH will continue to seek the guidance of local health officials and provide updated guidance based on science and data.

## **COHORTS**

Cohorts (self-contained, pre-assigned groups of students) will be maintained as much as possible to reduce the number of interactions. In some cases, students in different grades will interact across grades or divisions (e.g. some clubs, differentiated math or language classes, and After Hours Care).

## **COMMUNITY PROGRAMS**

*As of this writing*, MPH Community Programs are TBD. Given the ever-changing nature of the virus, as well as what we learn as we monitor the many variables of the pandemic, MPH will continue to seek the guidance of local health officials and provide updated guidance based on science and data.

## **CONCERTS** (See Co-curricular Activities)

## **CONFERENCES**

MPH will determine the safest way to conduct parent / teacher conferences as we approach their date in November.

## **COVID-19, POSITIVE CASE**

When a person tests positive for COVID-19, MPH seeks immediate guidance from the County Health Department and communicates with the wider community promptly and transparently. Many times, an infected individual is notified before the County contacts the school. If this is the case, please notify the Health and Safety team as soon as possible. Please do not assume the county will

contact MPH. For details on case investigation and contact tracing for isolation and quarantine, please refer to the *OCHD's Guidance for K-12 School Reopening for the 2021-2022 School Year*.

## **DAILY HEALTH ASSESSMENT (DHA)**

The DHA is our community health screening tool and a foundational part of MPH's social compact by which we each take responsibility for monitoring our own health, every day, to safeguard the overall health and well-being of the entire MPH community. Completing the DHA is done by attestation and required of every person – student, employee, visitor, or vendor – for admittance to campus.

See the section above headed "What Is Required of Me/My Child to Safeguard the Health and Well-being of the MPH Community?"

## **DISTANCE LEARNING** (See also Simulcast Access)

MPH continues to be nimble and adaptive to changing circumstances. MPH will conduct classes in person as long as we can do so safely. The primary mode of instruction in 2021-2022 occurs on campus and in person. Distance learning and simulcast access of classes may occasionally be necessary and can occur in one of three ways:

- 1.** There may be times when the health and safety of the community or school requires all instruction to move off campus. In those cases, classes will follow the distance-learning schedule posted on the MPH website. Families should be prepared to pivot to distance learning if necessary.
- 2.** Students who are either diagnosed with Covid-19 or quarantining, but feel well enough to follow their classes online, may access the simulcast of their classes following an email from their caregiver to their division head.
- 3.** In exceptional cases, students may access the simulcast during an excused absence from school. Their caregiver must make a formal request in advance by email for approval by their division head.

Other reasons, such as late mornings, fatigue, anxiety, or lack of transportation, do not qualify for access to MPH's simulcast. Also, students who are too sick to come to school should focus on getting well and should not participate in online learning.

A student's continuing access to the simulcast will depend on their responsibility for their school work and their productive use of the simulcast.

## **DRESS CODE**

Please refer to [mphischool.org/about/dress-code](https://mphischool.org/about/dress-code).

## **EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**

MPH continues to prioritize the overall well-being of students, teachers, employees, and families to create the mental, social, and emotional space for academic learning to occur. Understanding the vital importance of every community member's sense of belonging, MPH will continue to emphasize education around issues of diversity and equity, and practice inclusion of all members of the community. MPH intentionally creates space in the



daily schedule for community members to reduce stress through a variety of ways, including practicing self-care and care for others, spending time outdoors, and staying socially connected with friends and colleagues.

## FACE COVERINGS

### Indoors

All students, employees, and visitors must wear approved face coverings (no gators gaiters or scarves) whenever indoors. When an individual staff member is alone in an office or classroom and behind a closed door, face coverings may be removed.

### Outdoors

When outdoors, individuals may choose to wear face coverings or remove them; in either case they must be mindful of physical distancing. OCHD recommends that people who are not fully vaccinated, as well as fully vaccinated people if they or someone in their household are immunocompromised, wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings. As MPH continues to monitor community spread and vaccination rates, we will make adjustments to this protocol that are reasonable and responsible.

## FIELD TRIPS

*As of this writing*, we are awaiting guidance from the Onondaga County Health Department.

## HAND HYGIENE

Good hand hygiene is key to our ability to prevent spread of illness/disease. The importance of washing hands frequently and using hand sanitizer continues to be emphasized. Hand sanitizer is available in all classrooms, hallways, and other common areas throughout the school.

## MAGNUS APP

Last year, employees and parents used an app (Magnus) to complete the Daily Health Assessment (DHA) for themselves/their child(ren). MPH will not use the app this year. Instead, the DHA screening will be completed as an attestation. For details, see the section entitled, "What is Required of Me/My Child to Safeguard the Health and Well-Being of the MPH Community?" above.

## MASKS (See Face Coverings)

## MEETINGS

Large meetings continue to be held virtually instead of in person.

## NUTRITION: LUNCH AND SNACKS

*As of this writing*, plans for Lower, Middle, and Upper School lunches are still being developed. What is certain:

- All snacks and lunches will be prepared by our own dining services staff who are aware of allergies and food preferences, and are best able to prepare meals for the whole school population.
- Pre-K meals will continue to be delivered to the CEL.
- Meals will be eaten outdoors (weather permitting) or indoors with appropriate physical distancing in effect.
- The sharing of food is prohibited.
- In order to maintain food allergy safety, food should not be brought or sent in from home or ordered / delivered without permission from the school nurse.
- If your child is unable to eat food prepared by our dining services staff, you must provide a doctor's note to that effect to the school nurse.

## OUTDOORS

As we continue to maximize our use of outdoor spaces throughout the year, students and staff should come prepared for the weather.

## PARENT/GUARDIAN VISITS TO CAMPUS

Parents/guardians should refrain from coming to campus for the foreseeable future. Forgotten items may be dropped off in the vestibule of the Phoenix lobby. When a visit is pre-arranged, parents/guardians will follow the guidance under "visitors and vendors" below.

## PERFORMANCES (See Co-curricular Activities)

## PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Desks and other furniture are arranged to allow for as much distance as possible between students while adhering to current recommendations. Students and staff will continue to avoid gathering in hallways or around lockers. The rule is if you are in a hallway **talking**, it is best to be **walking**.

## SAFETY DRILLS

MPH continues to complete fire evacuation drills and lockdown training as required by New York State guidelines. Specifics of each training may be slightly altered to maintain safe physical distancing while still achieving the intent of the exercise.

## SIMULCAST ACCESS OF CLASSES

(See also Distance Learning)

## SOCIAL DISTANCING (See Physical Distancing)

## TESTING, COVID-19

*As of this writing*, we are awaiting details from the Onondaga County Health Department. Testing continues to be one of our best methods of keeping the community safe. Early indications are that MPH will conduct weekly, randomized testing for 10-20 percent of all students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, for the first several weeks of school at least. We will streamline the testing process with universal consent (forthcoming) and designated testing space so that there is minimal disruption to the school day.

## TOURS

Tours are conducted either virtually or after school hours with visitors adhering to all health and safety protocols.

## VACCINES

MPH encourages everyone who is able to receive a vaccine to do so as soon as it becomes available. *As of this writing*, children under the age of 12 are ineligible for the vaccine. With this fact in mind, every member of our close-knit MPH community will be especially mindful – **on and off campus** – of the health and well-being of every other member of our community. We are all **in this** together until we are all **out of it** together.

## VISITORS AND VENDORS

Visitors and vendors continue to be required to sign in and complete a paper Daily Health Assessment (DHA). Any visitor entering campus will be escorted to and from their destination with an adult host.