Houston Sudbury School
2020 COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols
Approved June 19, 2020, amended July 14, 2020, amended Sept 24, 2020

Thank you for your patience as we work together to make HSS a safe and healthy environment for all. The Health and Safety of our School Meeting Members and their families is our first priority. In light of COVID-19 HSS has updated their Policies and Procedures extensively, informed by the current recommendation from local, state and federal health officials, agencies and authorities, including CDC guidelines.

We acknowledge that many of these protocols interfere with the regular level of convenience and ease we are used to enjoying at HSS. To that end, these Health and Safety protocols do not reflect a “New Normal” for HSS. These protocols reflect the current conditions, and concerns around group gatherings at this time. As the concerns and conditions for group gatherings change and evolve so will HSS’s Health and Safety Protocols.

Proposed changes:

1. Revised School Calendar for 2020-2021
   a. Delayed start until Oct 5
   b. Shift entire school calendar by as many weeks as delayed from original start date of Aug 3
   c. Minimize days off, especially in the Fall semester to limit exposure to coronavirus due to travel, babysitters, etc.
   d. Reserve days off to use in case of closures due to COVID outbreak
   e. If no closures, 196 days of school (about 2 weeks longer than normal school year)

2. Extend school calendar into the summer as needed, maximum of 20 school days (4 weeks), in case of COVID related school closures beyond 2 weeks. School would not extend beyond July 31, 2021
3. Relax attendance requirements: all students automatically granted 20 personal days per year and can request additional days or have absences forgiven by SM
4. Strict enforcement “Students must stay home if sick” rule. No one may attend who has been exposed to COVID-19 until they complete a 2-week isolation
5. Student enrollment for 2020-2021 is limited to 35 students
6. Open communication with parents about illness and outbreaks
7. No open campus and no trips off campus (including corner store) until COVID cases decrease
8. No tours or visitors during the school day
9. Limit number of School Meeting Members who can be in a room at one time until COVID rates decrease and as determined by the Health and Safety Clerks
10. Spread computers out so students are not sitting close to each other
11. Encourage outdoor activities
12. Open doors to increase ventilation
13. Install HEPA air purifiers in rooms that have the most use and increase ventilation throughout the school
14. Install Merv13 filters on HVAC system
15. Continued increased and frequent sanitization of frequently touched surfaces on a daily schedule.
16. School Meeting meetings and Judicial Committee meetings will be socially distanced
17. Meetings of the entire school will take place outdoors and socially distanced when possible
18. Executive Committee employed to make SM-level decisions during any closures
19. Parents may not enter school. Students dropped off outside
20. Students must wait outside to be picked up, weather permitting
21. Students and staff must wear face coverings over their nose and mouth all day until COVID rates decrease significantly. Clean, disposable surgical masks will be provided by HSS each day as needed
22. Face coverings may be removed outside and while eating as long as social distancing (6 feet minimum) is maintained
23. eating and drinking to take place outside, weather permitting
24. All students and staff receive temp checks each day until COVID rates decrease
25. Handwashing required for all students and staff before and after eating and after using restroom
26. Students and staff may not share food except with family members