

Houston Sudbury School
2020 COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols

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. Early start, add weeks at the end of year as needed
 - b. Minimize days off, especially in the Fall semester to limit exposure to coronavirus due to travel, babysitters, etc.
 - c. Reserve days off to use in case of closures due to COVID outbreak
 - d. If no closures, 196 days of school (about 2 weeks longer than normal school year)
2. Extend school calendar into June as needed, maximum of 20 school days (4 weeks), in case of COVID related school closures beyond 2 weeks. School would not extend beyond June 30
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 when possible to increase ventilation
13. Install HEPA air purifiers in rooms that have the most use
14. Continued increased and frequent sanitation of frequently touched surfaces on a daily schedule.
15. School Meeting meetings and Judicial Committee meetings will be socially distanced
16. Meetings of the entire school will take place outdoors and socially distanced when possible
17. Executive Committee employed to make SM-level decisions during any closures
18. Parents may not enter school. Students dropped off outside
19. Students must wait outside to be picked up, weather permitting
20. Students over age 10 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
21. Face coverings may be removed outside and while eating as long as social distancing (6 feet minimum) is maintained
22. All students and staff receive temp checks each day until COVID rates decrease
23. Handwashing required for all students and staff before and after eating and after using restroom
24. Students and staff may not share food except with family members