

August 27, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Greetings of Peace!

I hope all is well with your families. We have opened the school year and we are excited to be on campus with the students.

While we are maintaining protocols of wearing masks, washing hands, and watching our distance, we remain vigilant as COVID-19 is not completely gone from our island.

We have been notified again of an individual who tested positive from our school community. He/she was on campus the day before he/she was tested. This is the second time we have received a report that a member of our community is tested positive. There is no reason to believe that COVID-19 was contracted from his/her time on campus at DCS.

I was in direct communication with the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) for guidance. Following that guidance, I enacted the items below.

1. The individual who tested positive will be isolated and will not be joining the school community for on campus classes or other activities. He/she will be allowed to return to campus after 10 days if he/she is asymptomatic. If there are symptoms, he/she will be allowed back on campus when he/she is without fever for 24 hours and his/her symptoms improve.

2. Close contacts were identified through seating charts and interviews. Close contacts are individuals who were within six feet for 15 minutes or more.

3. Close contacts who are not fully vaccinated have been informed that they will have to quarantine for ten days. After those ten days, they may return. Quarantine for close contacts would be reduced to seven days if they test negative starting on day 5.

4. Fully vaccinated close contacts and those who have a documented previous COVID-19 infection (no more than 90 days prior to exposure) and are asymptomatic do not have to quarantine.

Additionally, Father Duenas Memorial School (FDMS) has informed us that some of its staff members have been trained to conduct the Abbott BinaxNOW test. It is a rapid test that can be conducted on campus and results are ready in 15 minutes. FDMS will be providing this free service to our students and their families should there be a need and a desire to be tested.

A student who is isolating or quarantining will be working with his/her teachers to be able to engage in learning while not on campus.

Since we have been allowed to return to on campus classes, we have taken many steps to ensure the health and safety of all our DCS community members so that our students can get back on campus for learning and they can return to some semblance of a high school experience. I hope we can continue to work together to support each other in this effort. Please let me know if there is anything else.

In addition, timely reporting of exposure or positive results would greatly help in assuring the safety of everyone in the school community. Please report to the school, if your child/ward has been exposed or positive with Covid19. Send to us a hard copy of test results for documentation purposes.

Let us continue to pray to God through the intercession of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary and our Holy Father St. Dominic for safety and protection.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Sr. Esperanza H. Seguban, OP

Principal