



Dear student and adult participants in NEFRSEF 2021,

Students and teachers are excited about the opportunity to present their projects at Hybrid NEFRSEF 2021. In the midst of the pandemic, the Operations Committee put together a science fair experience that provides opportunities for students to showcase their scientific investigations in a safe and comfortable environment. We are very fortunate that Episcopal School of Jacksonville is permitting us to use their outside venue and adjoining classrooms for our fair.

The Episcopal administration has worked diligently throughout the school year to ensure the school policies and practices are in compliance with COVID-19 related local, state, and federal guidelines.

At the NEFRSEF 2021 the following procedures will be followed in accordance with Episcopal School's policies:

- Upon arrival at the fair, students and adults will be asked if they have experienced any of the symptoms in the last 2 days:
 - Fever (100.4 or higher) or chills
 - Cough or sore throat
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- Before entry to the fair, attendees will be asked if there has been any contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
- All adults and students will have their temperature checked with a digital forehead thermometer at the entrance points.
- Based on the symptoms present and specific circumstances, a student or adult who is believed to be at risk of having COVID-19 will be asked to leave campus.
- All students and adults attending NEFRSEF will practice the basic COVID-19 precautions:
 - **washing** hands
 - **wearing** masks
 - **watching** our distance
- **Everyone will be required to wear a face covering while on campus.** This includes walking through the hallways, walking to and from parking lots or drop-offs, in the restrooms, while at projects, and judging conversations and interviews in the classroom. When there is two or more people in any room, all people must be wearing a mask, no matter the distance

between people. Exceptions to this will be limited to designated locations while eating lunch.

- **Face coverings of any color must fit properly**, cover the nose and mouth, fit snugly below the chin, have no valves, and must be two-ply if made of cloth.
- Students and adults must adhere to the **rules posted outside of restrooms** concerning the number of people permitted at one time.
- All students and adults will use hand sanitizer as they enter and exit all classroom and common spaces (**“sanitize in, sanitize out”**).
- Project arrangements and judging rooms will be set up to **maximize social distancing**. Seating should not be moved in such a way that the seats are closer together.

Their plans are based on extensive research by carefully considering recommendations made by the following organizations or plans: CDC guidelines; American Academy of Pediatrics, Governor DeSantis’ Safe, Smart, Step-by-Step Plan for Florida’s Recovery; Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) Reopening Florida’s Schools and the CARES Act; Mayo Clinic; Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia; Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS); Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS); National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) and Independent School Management (ISM).

The school’s plans demonstrate their commitment to all member of our community by doing the following:

- **Keeping the community safe** remains the overarching priority to ensure we continue being able to provide our students with a full time, on-campus learning environment.
- Ensuring **hygiene practices** are in place as the most effective way to combat the spread of COVID-19.
- Establishing **daily health checks** that ensure individuals with COVID-19 symptoms are not on campus.
- Establishing clear COVID-19 related **quarantine and testing protocols** for the community.
- Ensuring that campus specific COVID-19 protection practices and modifications are put into place to reduce potential exposure to COVID-19 for our students, faculty, staff, and families.

The Operations Committee of NEFRSEF appreciates the opportunity to have a Hybrid Science Fair in the middle of the COVID pandemic. The rules listed above is a way to ensure the health, safety and well-being of all participating students.

Sincerely,

Marion Zeiner, NEFRSEF Director