

Socially Connected While Physically Distant

In the current context of physical distancing and personal protective equipment, it may seem harder to connect. Masks will hide smiles and other positive expressions, and our need to maintain space may inadvertently send messages of “stay away” instead of “welcome.”

We need to be more intentional with establishing positive connections.

As we cannot rely on expressions or physical touch, we will need to consider how to use our words to more fully convey the meaning of our welcome, connections, and positive feedback.

Instead of a...

Consider...



Visible Smile



- “I’m smiling because ____.”
- Smiling eyes or 😊 emoticon



High Five



- “Great effort on ____!”
- Air high five or 🙌 emoticon



Fist Bump



- “I see you. I’m here for you.”
- Air fist bump or 🙏 emoticon



Hug



- “I’m so happy to see you.”
- Air hug or 😊 emoticon



Pat on the Shoulder



- “Nice _____. I’m proud of you.”
- Thumbs up or 👍 emoticon



Handshake



- “Great to see you again.”
- Wave or 🙌 emoticon



Greet at Door



- “Welcome! Glad you’re here.”
- Greet behind podium or at log in