

September 14, 2021

Dear Hackensack Public Schools' Families:

On behalf of Hackensack Public Schools, welcome to the start of the 2021-2022 school year! The district recognizes the 2021-2022 School Year will stand apart from other school years for our staff, students, and community. Against the backdrop of the COVID-19 global pandemic, even as we maintain our commitment to provide our students with the best educational experience possible, we must embrace a multilayered safety and health plan that will help keep each other safe. This school year will call for flexibility: flexibility in response to changing developments and guidance, and flexibility in our teaching and learning to accommodate the challenges our students and staff will face.

Please take the time to review the information below - understanding that guidance is continually evolving - regarding how our schools will operate during the school year. The information in this letter is pursuant to Governor Murphy's Executive Orders, *The Road Forward* (guidance document from the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health) and the Hackensack Department of Health.

The contents of the chart below are reliant on guidance from the agencies listed above. As such, all topics included on this page are subject to revisions based on the New Jersey Department Of Health COVID - 19 Health Matrix and gubernatorial executive order(s). The chart below contains the most pertinent topics and current information for the 2021-2022 school year. Should you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your building nurse.

Topic	Current Information as of 9/1/2021
Masks	Required for all students, staff and visitors indoors with limited exceptions
Social Distancing	3-feet or more, whenever possible
Student Health Screenings	Students must fill out attestation document
Quarantine for COVID positive Student or Staff	Nurse will complete contact tracing form per NJDOH guidelines and give the appropriate period of quarantine
Quarantine of direct contact(s) of COVID Exposure for Fully Vaccinated Student/Staff	No quarantine required
Quarantine of direct contact(s) of COVID Exposure for unvaccinated Students/Staff	Quarantine periods will be given by the school nurse and will be consistent with current NJDOH guidelines

	Nurse will complete contact tracing form per NJDOH guidelines and give the appropriate period of quarantine
Quarantine for Fully Vaccinated Student/Staff after domestic travel (longer than 24hrs) outside of NJ, NY, PA and DE or any International travel	No quarantine for domestic travel; contingent upon proof of full vaccination status For more information, refer to the CDC's guidance for domestic travel .
Quarantine for Unvaccinated Student/Staff after domestic travel (longer than 24hrs) outside of NJ, NY, PA and DE or any International travel	If travel cannot be delayed, domestic and international travelers who are not fully vaccinated should get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel, even if they test negative. If testing is not completed post-travel, individuals will self-quarantine for 10 days. For more information, refer to the CDC's guidance for domestic travel .
Students/Staff with COVID-19 compatible symptoms in school	Based on level of compatible symptoms, School Nurse will advise staff or parent/guardian (for students) to seek testing before return to work/school is granted
COVID-19 Testing	A PCR test remains the standard test accepted by the District to ascertain COVID status.

Please note, as of May 17, 2021, New Jersey's travel advisory is no longer in effect. Following the guidance from the State and the Hackensack Health Department, any student who travels outside of NJ, NY, PA and DE will be required to follow the above-referenced guidelines, regardless of whether the individual has been vaccinated.

We realize that over the course of the school year students may need to travel, but we also have an obligation to keep our community safe and to follow the travel guidelines. Therefore, if an unvaccinated student travels they are required to quarantine and will be marked absent during that time period.

Let's have a great school year