



EAST GREENWICH TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Andrea Evans, Superintendent

Gregory Wilson, Business Administrator

March 1, 2022

Dear East Greenwich Township School Community,

The purpose of this communication is to provide more details and explanations of our health and safety procedures as a result of the New Jersey Department of Health’s revised [guidance](#).

Effective Monday, March 7th, changes will be made in masking procedures and school-based close contact quarantine options. All other health and safety procedures and mitigation strategies, such as social distancing, will continue to remain in place. Please read the updated information below.

Masking

- Effective Monday, March 7th, masks are optional in our school buildings **and** on school buses.
 - Choosing whether or not to wear a mask is a family choice. Please help prepare your child for other families’ choices to ensure a smooth transition. More information from the district can be found [here](#).
 - Our staff respects family choice on mask-wearing, and as such, staff will not be asking students whether or not they are supposed to be wearing a mask. Please work with your child to ensure he or she understands your expectations for mask-wearing.
- When entering the nurse’s office, students with COVID-like symptoms will be provided a mask to wear while in the nurse’s office.
- When traveling outside of the district for a district-sponsored field trip or event, students and staff must follow the masking requirements of that location. The masking requirements of the location will be provided to parents and guardians in advance.

School-Based Close Contacts and Quarantine

Our nurses will continue to contact trace when there is a positive COVID-19 case. Please keep in mind that the definition of a school-based close contact is **dependent upon masking**.

When <u>both</u> the positive student and the close contact are wearing masks,	a close contact is defined as being within 3 feet or less of each other for 15 cumulative minutes.
When <u>either or neither</u> the positive student and the close contact are wearing masks,	a close contact is defined as being within 6 feet or less of each other for 15 cumulative minutes.

If your student is a school-based close contact and asymptomatic, **parents/guardians will choose** one of the following quarantine options for your student while we are in the moderate and low risk levels:

1. **(New)** Remain in school and wear a mask for the 10 day quarantine.



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2. **(New)** Engage in virtual instruction for Days 1-5, take a PCR or antigen test on Days 5-7, and return to school following the negative test result on Day 8. No masking required on Days 8-10.
3. Engage in virtual instruction for Days 1-5, return to school on Days 6-10 and wear a mask.
4. Engage in virtual instruction for the 10 day quarantine.

If your student is a school-based close contact, asymptomatic and fully vaccinated, he or she does not need to quarantine.

If your student is a school-based close contact, asymptomatic and COVID-19 positive in the last 90 days, he or she does not need to quarantine.

Household-Based Close Contacts and Quarantine

There are no changes to the information below; these procedures remain consistent.

- Household contacts will continue to quarantine for 10 days, and students may return to school on Day 11.
- If a household member has COVID-compatible symptoms, the asymptomatic students can return to school when:
 - The ill household member has received a negative test result.
 - OR**
 - The ill household member has received an alternative diagnosis.
 - OR**
 - The asymptomatic student quarantines for 10 days.

We are hopeful the number of positive cases will remain low, and we will continue to monitor these practices to make adjustments as needed. We appreciate our school community's continued support, and we look forward to the many opportunities that lie ahead.

Sincerely,

Andrea Evans