

2021-2022
Upper Township School District
Re-opening Plan

August 16, 2021
(Revised August 30, 2021)

Expectations for the 2021-2022 School Year

1. Keep schools open ALL YEAR.
2. Appropriately address all academic needs and non-strengths.
3. Support the social and emotional health of staff and students.

Medical Professionals

- Dr. Gemma Downham MPH (Masters in Public Health): Infection Prevention Epidemiologist
- Dr. Jerry Horowitz DO (Osteopathic Medicine): School Physician/Family Medicine Specialist
- Dr. Nicole Leo DO (Osteopathic Medicine): Family Medicine Specialist
- Dr. Fotios Tjourmakaris MD (Medical Doctor): Orthopedic Surgery Specialist
- Dr. Mark Yoa MD (Medical Doctor): Anesthesiology Specialist

What is Close Contact?

- **Within 6 feet.**
- **For at least 15 minutes in a 24-hour period.**
- **Within 2 days prior to illness onset or a positive test result.**
- **Regardless of whether the contact was wearing a mask.**

Vaccinated Close Contact

- If the Close Contact is exposed by a person who has tested **positive or symptomatic**:
 1. Recommended that the close contact is tested on Days 3-5 (not required).
 2. Close Contact **can remain at work/school**, with masks, **until symptomatic or tests positive**.

Non-Vaccinated Close Contact (Green or Yellow CALI Status)

- If the Close Contact is exposed by a person who has tested positive but is able to isolate away from the person:
 1. Follow prescribed protocols.
 2. Close Contact, WITHOUT symptoms, is permitted to return to work/school:
 - a. On Days 8-10 with a (-) test taken on Days 5-7.
 - b. On Day 11 if not tested.

Non-Vaccinated Close Contact (Green or Yellow CALI Status)

- If the Close Contact is exposed by a person who has tested **positive but is NOT able to isolate away from the person:**
 1. Follow prescribed protocols.
 2. Close Contact, WITHOUT symptoms, is **permitted to return to work/school:**
 - a. On Days 18-20 with a (-) PCR test taken on Days 15-17.
 - b. On Day 21 if not tested.

Non-Vaccinated Close Contact (Green or Yellow CALI Status)

- If the Close Contact is exposed by a person who has symptoms but is able to isolate away from the person:
 1. Follow prescribed protocols.
 2. Close Contact, WITHOUT symptoms, is permitted to return to work/school:
 - a. After sick person produces a (-) test.
 - b. On Days 8-10 with a (-) test taken on Days 5-7.
 - c. On Day 11 if not tested.

Non-Vaccinated Close Contact (Green or Yellow CALI Status)

- If the Close Contact is exposed by a person who has symptoms but is NOT able to isolate away from the person:
 1. Follow prescribed protocols.
 2. Close Contact, WITHOUT symptoms, is permitted to return to work/school:
 - a. After sick person produces a (-) PCR test.
 - b. On Days 18-20 with a (-) PCR test taken on Days 15-17.
 - c. On Day 21 if not tested.

Non-Vaccinated Close Contact (Orange CALI Status)

- If the Close Contact is exposed by a person who has tested positive but is able to isolate away from the person:
 1. Follow prescribed protocols.
 2. Close Contact, WITHOUT symptoms, is permitted to return to work/school:
 - a. On Day 15 (no option to test out).

Non-Vaccinated Close Contact (Orange CALI Status)

- If the Close Contact is exposed by a person who has tested positive but is NOT able to isolate away from the person:
 1. Follow prescribed protocols.
 2. Close Contact, WITHOUT symptoms, is permitted to return to work/school:
 - a. On Day 25 (no option to test out).

Non-Vaccinated Close Contact (Orange CALI Status)

- If the Close Contact is exposed by a person who has symptoms but is able to isolate away from the person:
 1. Follow prescribed protocols.
 2. Close Contact, WITHOUT symptoms, is permitted to return to work/school:
 - a. After sick person produces a (-) PCR test.
 - b. On Day 15 (no option to test out).

Non-Vaccinated Close Contact (Orange CALI Status)

- If the Close Contact is exposed by a person who has symptoms but is NOT able to isolate away from the person:
 1. Follow prescribed protocols.
 2. Close Contact, WITHOUT symptoms, is permitted to return to work/school:
 - a. After sick person produces a (-) PCR test.
 - b. On Day 25 (no option to test out).

MASKS

- Main benefit is to prevent the spreading of the virus.
- **Cloth masks are breathable and freely diffuse carbon dioxide when breathing is present.**
- The wearing of properly-fitted masks is the most effective mitigation strategy for staff/students.

MASKS

- **CDC and AAP strongly recommend that ALL people in PK-12 schools properly wear masks.**
- **EO-251 mandates the wearing of masks in schools/school activities for ALL staff and students (regardless of vaccination status).**
- **ALL recommendations by a CSA must be in compliance with NJ State Law.**

MASKS

ALL staff and students will wear a mask in school and on the bus except:

1. **During mask breaks.**
2. While outdoors.
3. **While eating or drinking.**
4. Performing, singing, participating in intense aerobic indoor activity.

Mask Non-Compliance

- 1. Students will be given a mask to wear. If refuse to wear, students will be sent home (disciplinary event).**
- 2. Further action may be taken in alignment with EO-251.**
- 3. Outside agencies may be contacted.**

Social Distancing

3 feet will be maintained to the greatest extent possible (some scenarios 1-3 ft):

- Properly wearing of masks
- Upgrades in ventilation systems
 - COVID-19 Annual Statement of Assurance*
(replaces daily screening forms)

What Will School Look Like? (Logistics)

1. No more plastic barriers (except for special education cases).
2. MS students can use hallway lockers (limited basis).
3. MS students will NOT remain in cohorts (students will be scheduled by class period and move from room to room. * (replaces cohorts that remained together all day)
4. Activities/sports/assemblies are back (with social distancing).
5. Desks face same direction: (limited groupwork permitted)

What Will School Look Like? (Hand washing/sanitizing)

1. Before/after lunch/snack.
2. Before/after PE/Specials.*
3. Before/after sharing of equipment.*
4. Before/after switching rooms.*

* (when applicable)

What Will School Look Like? (Lunch)

1. 3 ft min of social distancing.
2. Masks off only while eating/drinking.
3. Assigned seats within each cohort.

What Will School Look Like?

(When required to isolate: COVID-related)

1. Students will have access to all materials (entire length of isolation).
2. Day 6 through isolation: age-appropriate, synchronous academic support (up to 1 hour per day).
3. Students will **NOT** be marked absent.

Testing Protocols (Staff)

- NJDOH will be offering a FREE testing program for ALL school employees (specifics to be released by mid-September).
- Vaccinated staff will NOT be required to submit weekly test results (as of today).
- Non-vaccinated staff WILL be required to submit weekly test results (DOH to release a list of acceptable tests in the near future).

Testing Protocols (Staff)

- ALL non-vaccinated staff need to submit weekly test results: no testing exemptions for medical/religious situations.
- Home test results ARE permitted and can be officially submitted and deemed compliant.
- Our nurses will NOT be involved in testing at our schools at this point in time.

Testing Protocols (Staff)

- Staff may submit test results from ANY of the approved testing kits/sites (not yet available from the DOH).
- If a staff member chooses NOT to participate in the FREE program, they are financially responsible for alternative testing.
- ALL substitute staff MUST be vaccinated to remain active on our sub lists (Long-Term subs will be treated as Staff for testing purposes).

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