

January 2, 2022

Again, Happy New Year and yes, we are opening on January 3, 2022, with a full day. We are watching the weather; all-district structures are in place. Our Leadership Team has met continuously to assess the county and district data. This has been our process. In addition, we also consult with the Hunterdon County Department of Health, the New Jersey Department of Health (NJ DoH), and the epidemiologist from the NJ DoH. Our district has maintained a very comprehensive structure and we continue to stay ahead of the information to ensure a safe and healthy environment for our children and the faculty and staff. In addition, we assess all options and will implement options as indicated by the “data of **our** district – Clinton Township Public Schools.”

To date, we have not received any changes/modifications to the information received from the NJ DoH on December 15/27. Quarantine and close contact criteria are the same as identified on Friday’s update.

There are many factors considered in our decision-making process. As always, the primary focus is the health and safety of all members of our educational community. Factors include but are not limited to the capacity of the district to fully operate and the continuous capacity of all members of our community to provide a safe school environment and authentic programs.

Please review:

- Our collaborative partners indicate the increase in positive Covid cases will continue with our region moving to the **RED**.
- Our transportation follows all CDC Guidelines. District data since September indicates that the majority of student quarantines as a result of close contact are a result of children being transported by bus.
- Should we receive new CDC guidelines it will take our district one day to alter the close contact protocols. ergo, a remote day will be announced.
- Our Leadership Team has been discussing a “remote option” for the period of time after recess. In addition, we discussed the need to offer a full remote instructional platform after the recess with the District Advisory on December 20, 2021. At this time, the parental option for a remote platform is still being considered.
- Should you be informed that your child is a close contact, the date of contact/exposure is offered by the school nurse and/or contact tracer.
- **The school nurse will determine each child’s individual timeline for return when they are positive for Covid, considered a close contact, or are otherwise symptomatic.**
- **Upon determination of the quarantine timeline for each individual student, the principal will inform you of the date synchronous instruction will commence. This requires one day to initiate synchronous instruction.**

To maintain a healthy environment at school, please contact your school nurse and keep your child home **when any of the following occur:**

- Your child is sick. Contact the school nurse for follow-up instructions.
- If your child's test is positive for COVID-19. Contact the school nurse for a return to school timeline.
- Anyone in your household tests positive. Contact the school nurse for quarantine and isolation instructions.
- If your child has been identified as a close contact of an individual who is positive for COVID-19 outside of school. Contact the school nurse for quarantine and isolation instructions.

Please send your child to school wearing a well-fitting mask and send at least one extra in a plastic bag in their backpack as a backup. In addition, please make sure your child's device is charged each day.

As always, your support and your due diligence enables our entire district to serve our children,

Johanna S. Ruberto, Ed.D.
Interim Superintendent

Note:

Please tell the kids, we are all looking forward to seeing them on Monday – if not, a “snow day.”