

The Harrington Park School District

March 3, 2022

Dear Harrington Park Families:

I hope this communication finds you well. As stated in a previous communication, on February 7th Governor Murphy announced that effective March 7, 2022, the Public Health Emergency that drives the school mask mandate will be allowed to expire. As a result, beginning March 7th masks will no longer be required in Harrington Park School; instead, they will be optional for staff, students and visitors.

The new guidance stipulates that districts should continue to work in consultation with their local and county health departments post-March 7th in the event of the potential need to reinstate masking requirements in the future due to changing circumstances.

Revised Harrington Park Protocols are as follows:

- Masking in school is OPTIONAL as of March 7, 2022. A student/staff member may choose to wear a mask or choose not to wear one. District staff will not monitor the wearing of student masks. We ask that parents have a conversation with their child(ren) about their mask expectations while attending school. Please note that staff and students can continue to wear a mask based on their personal preferences.
- The Harrington Park School District will continue to offer both on-site rapid and PCR tests for students that have developed symptoms while at school. Parents are still asked to keep their children home if they are ill and use our nursing staff as a resource if you have questions about whether a child should stay home. Parents are asked to continue to monitor their children for symptoms including fever of 100.4 F or more, new or persistent cough, body aches, stomach ache and nausea, sore throat, and congestion.
- In the event that a student or staff member is identified as COVID positive, families will be informed of a positive case within the class or grade through our notification system or in paper form.
- Students and staff who are post-Covid positive will be required to wear masks upon return to school after quarantining or isolating, or if they become ill with COVID-19 symptoms when they are in school. Therefore, as is the case now, a student or staff member who returns from the five-day quarantine would be required to wear a mask in school for days 6 - 10 and they will be required to eat in an alternative location.
- There will be no changes to the quarantine time frames for positive cases. The Harrington Park School District will continue to use the procedures that have been in place, until such time and if the CDC/NJDOH changes them. This includes the use of virtual instruction for students who are home due to a positive case.

- Currently, Bergen County's activity level is low with a CALI score of one. *This is the lowest [CALI score](#) since September of 2020.* In consultation with the materials provided by the CDC, the NJDOH, and the BCDOH, the Harrington Park School District may decide to reimpose mask requirements temporarily at any time if the situation warrants a response to that level.
- The District will continue to utilize our cleaning and safety practices that have been implemented throughout the pandemic. These practices as well as individual health practices will keep our students and staff healthy and safe.

As a District, we applaud our families and staff for their cooperation and their willingness to support this Spartan family over the last 24 months. Your support allowed us to remain in school, where we are meant to be as a family.

Sincerely,
Dr. Adam Fried