



Hicksville Public Schools

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Marianne Litzman
Superintendent of Schools

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Dear School Community,

This August, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) issued updated guidance for schools regarding COVID-19 protocols for the 2022-2023 school year. The New York State Department of Health in conjunction with the New York State Department of Education issued guidance for schools. The following is a summary of the COVID protocols which will be in place for Hicksville Public Schools as we open for a new school year:

MASKS

- Universal masking is not currently required in the school setting but is recommended in indoor public settings when a community is in a High COVID-19 community level. However, individuals wishing to wear a mask may do so as personal choice.

ISOLATION

- Students and staff members expressing COVID-19 symptoms (e.g., cough, fever, sore throat, vomiting or diarrhea) must remain home. Testing is recommended as soon as possible after symptoms begin.
- Those testing positive or those who display symptoms (without testing) should isolate for 5 days at home. Day 0 is the date of symptom onset or, if asymptomatic, positive test. (Day 1 is the first full day following either.) If an asymptomatic individual develops symptoms within 10 days, the clock restarts at day 0.
- Isolated individuals may resume attending school after day 5 if they are fever-free (without fever-reducing medication) for a full 24 hours, if their other symptoms are improving AND if they wear a well-fitting mask for ten days following a positive test.

QUARANTINE

- Quarantine is *no longer recommended* for asymptomatic individuals exposed to COVID-19 in schools. It is recommended, but not required, that exposed individuals wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days following exposure and test for the virus (at least 5 days after close contact or sooner if symptoms develop). As in the past, school officials will inform parents/guardians upon learning that their children have possibly been exposed.

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TESTING

- Schools are not required to offer screening or diagnostic testing. Staff testing is no longer required.
- Schools will maintain an ample supply of home test kits, available upon request.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- Physical distancing is no longer required.

REPORTING

- Daily reporting of positive test results to the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has been discontinued.
- Daily district reporting on the website will not resume in 2022-2023.

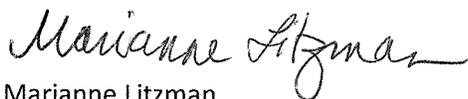
REMOTE INSTRUCTION

- Virtual elementary settings and secondary camera accommodations will not be in place for 2022-2023.
- Accommodations for homebound instruction will be made for those students with a documented illness of more than 10 days, which is in alignment with NYSED regulation.

We look forward to welcoming our students back to school and a return to normalcy as best as can be expected in an ever- changing world. We will keep our community informed should any new information or modifications regarding these protocols be sent from the CDC, the State Education Department, and/or the Department of Health.

Enjoy the waning days of summer!

Sincerely,



Marianne Litzman
Superintendent of Schools