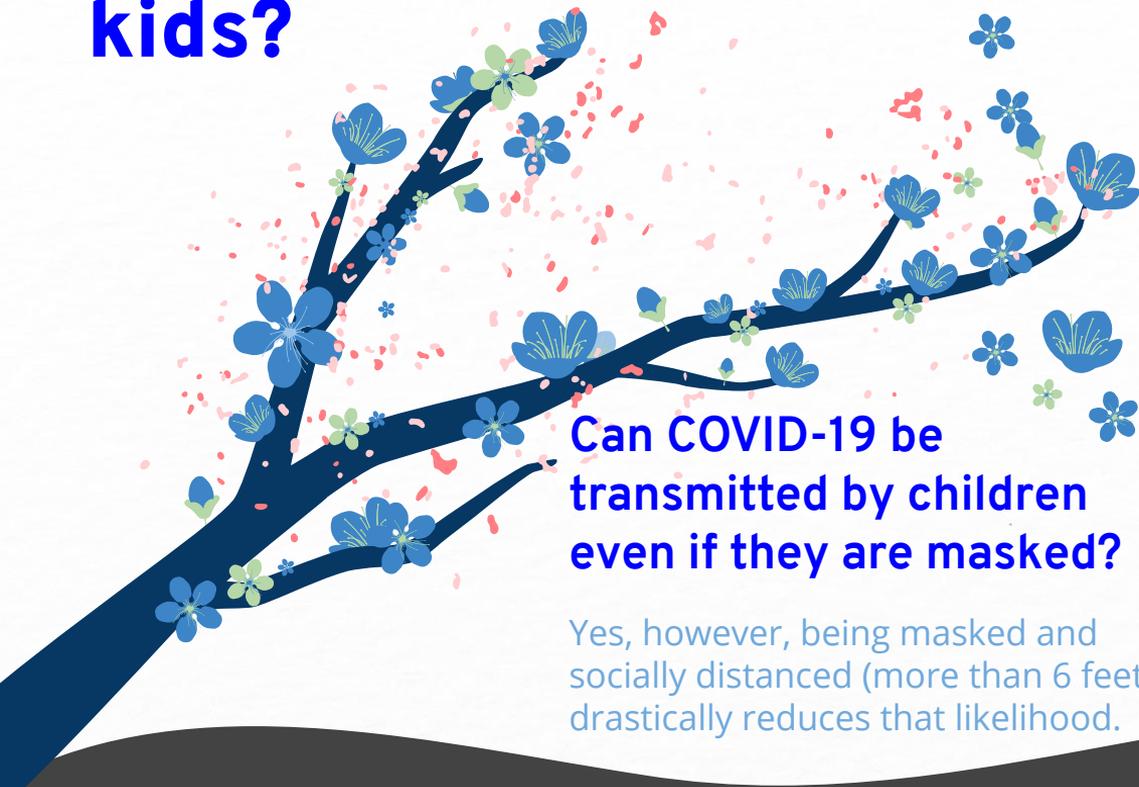




Black Horse Pike Regional School District

**Draft V Return to School Plans
AUGUST 26, 2021**

What do we know about COVID-19 and kids?



Can COVID-19 be transmitted by children even if they are masked?

Yes, however, being masked and socially distanced (more than 6 feet) drastically reduces that likelihood.

Can COVID-19 be transmitted by children?

Yes, especially those that are 12 and older.

Can children 12 and older be harmed by COVID-19?

Yes, however, the virus does not impact those below age 18, like it does in adults.

How Do We Make A Safe Environment

- ★ Our schools are safe because of our mitigation efforts. Schools, locally, are not sources of transmission. It is more likely that community transmission occurs first, then brought into the school.
- ★ The CDC, NJDOE, NJDOH, and infectious disease experts have opined that it is safe to re-open schools, so long as mitigation efforts are followed.
- ★ **So what are mitigation efforts?**
 - Mask wearing 100% of the time (Governor Murphy's Executive Order 251).
 - Socially distanced (may only be 3 feet of distance)
 - Lots of hand washing
 - Physical barriers when not physically distanced, where appropriate
 - Indoor air quality mitigation efforts, like fresh air intake and air purification systems.
- ★ What assists with keeping everyone safe?
 - Limiting taking masks off
 - Limiting close interaction, especially without a mask.
 - Limiting large groups indoors

What were last year's numbers?

The figures below represent the known 2020-2021 school year COVID-19 cases. There have been a few hospitalizations of staff and we do not know if and how students or their families have been impacted. We do know of students who are suffering from chronic lung issues.

of positive student cases

234

of student close contacts

550

of faculty positive cases

57

of faculty close contacts

212

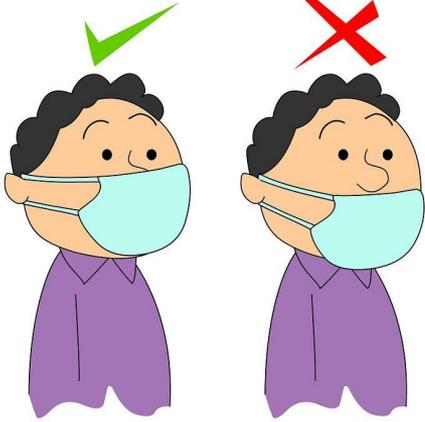
The New Jersey Department of Education Requires Three Responses From School Districts

We are following the recommendations found in the NJDOE
The Road Forward.



1. Maintaining Health and Safety
 - a. Universal and correct wearing of masks
 - b. Physical distancing
 - c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
 - d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities
 - e. Contact tracing
 - f. Diagnostic and screening testing
 - g. Efforts to provide vaccination to educators, staff, and students
 - h. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities.
2. Ensuring Continuity of Services
 - a. How will the LEA address students' academic needs and students'/staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which includes food service.
3. Public Comment

Mask Wearing



The Black Horse Pike Regional School District has surveyed the community members and staff members. The survey results indicate that majority of staff (82%) and community members (69%) believe mask wearing, unless required by the Department of Health, would be encouraged for those unvaccinated and optional for all in attendance. However, according to the Camden County Department of Health, Governor Murphy's Executive Order No. 251 requires mask wearing indoors.

Students must wear a mask on school transportation, as per the [CDC Order](#). If a student refuses to wear a mask, the Health Department recommends denying them entrance, with the exception of when an individual provides medical documentation that wearing a mask would be detrimental to their health.

We will follow this guidance as to the [proper wearing of masks](#). Students, staff, and visitors will have access to disposable masks in case one is soiled during the day or they do not have an appropriate mask.

As *The Road Forward* document states, “masks and barriers do not preclude an individual from being identified as a close contact to a COVID-19 case.”

Physical Distancing

Students will be spaced to the greatest extent possible, understanding that 6 feet of social distancing is not possible with all students returning to school.

In classrooms, students will be spaced to the greatest extent possible in classrooms, but in some cases, students will be less than 3 feet apart.

Seating charts must be up to date and accurate and shared with the vice-principal overseeing the department.

Try to avoid personal interaction and mixing students as much as possible.



Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

Washing Hands is recommended periodically through the school day. Some are suggesting in between each class, but especially before and after eating. Prepare and maintain hand sanitizing stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol):

- In each classroom (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).
- At entrances and exits of buildings.
- Near lunchrooms and toilets.
- For classrooms that have existing handwashing stations, prepare stations with soap, water, and alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol).

Students should wash hands for at least 20 seconds at regular intervals, including before eating, after using the bathroom, and after blowing their nose/coughing/sneezing. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) if washing with soap and water is not possible.

Maintaining Clean Facilities

- We will follow the [CDC recommendations for cleaning](#).
- Each custodian will certify that they have done so in every area they clean and complete a room checklist every night. A schedule will be designed and provided to staff to ensure all spaces are cleaned.
- We will provide significant cleaning and sanitizing every evening.
- All A/C filters are changed per the specs of the product. All systems have a fresh air component. Windows can be opened as needed and fresh air dampers can be adjusted as needed.
- Each room will have hand sanitizer and those classrooms where materials are shared, like keyboards or computer mice, will have disinfectant so that students can clean after and/or before use.
- Classrooms and offices will also have air purification systems.

As noted in The Road Back Department of Health guidance, if a positive COVID-19 case emerges, all areas affected will be closed for use, then cleaned and sanitized as soon as recommended (after several hours).

Daily Screening: Parent Responsibility

Parents and Caregivers should not send students to school when sick or symptomatic. For school settings, NJDOH recommends that students with the following symptoms be promptly isolated from others and excluded from school:

- ★ At least two of the following symptoms: fever (measure or subjective), chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headaches, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion, or runny nose; OR
- ★ At least one of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new olfactory disorder (cannot smell), or new taste disorder.

Use the [CDC Daily Checker](#) everyday to find out if you should not be attending school. It is available on our schools' websites.

Contact Tracing: Close Contacts

Contact tracing is a strategy used to determine the source of an infection and how it is spreading. Finding people who are close contacts of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, and therefore at higher risk of becoming infected themselves, can help prevent further spread of the virus. Per the CDC, close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of someone with suspected or known COVID-19 for 15 or more minutes during a 24-hour period.

If a student shows symptoms or tests positive, please email the child's school nurse to notify them of the positive COVID-19 test result and include the following information: Student Name, School, Grade Level, Date of Symptoms, Date of Positive Test, Where Tested, Contact Information.

Highland nurse is Jeanine Trommater, jtrommater@bhprsd.org or 856-227-4100 x 4008

Triton nurse is Christa Moore, cmoore@bhprsd.org or 856-939-4500 x2008

Timber Creek nurse is Monica Coslove, mcoslove@bhprsd.org or 856-232-9703 x6008

Quarantine Periods

See NJDOE *The Road Forward* Document for the Exclusion Criteria.

For High (Orange) Community Transmission levels, anyone who tests positive, any unvaccinated individuals who were in close contact with someone who tested positive, or a symptomatic vaccinated individual needs to quarantine for 14 days.

For Moderate and Low (Yellow & Green) Community Transmission levels, exposed close contacts should be excluded from school for 10 days (or 7 days with negative test results collected at 5-7 days), unless they are vaccinated.

If a student/employee tests positive, they will have to quarantine for 10 days past the positive test or 14 days past the onset of the symptoms. The student does not need to test negative, but we will require medical certification to return to school, as per Policy #5200. If a student tests positive, and other students were in close contact with the student, then the Health Department will notify the school. We have to keep that information confidential.

If a student tests positive and they are vaccinated, they must quarantine for 10-14 days, and be asymptomatic in order to return to school. If the child has any of the following symptoms, they must remain home until they are fully asymptomatic. Vaccinated individuals can still spread the virus.

- At least two of the following symptoms: fever (measure or subjective), chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headaches, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion, or runny nose; OR
- At least one of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new olfactory disorder (cannot smell), or new taste disorder.

HOUSEHOLD CLOSE CONTACTS

HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS

According to page 19 of the NJ DOH Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools, updated March 23, 2021, students/staff members who are not fully vaccinated and who are household members of a student/staff member with COVID-19 compatible symptoms that meet COVID-19 Exclusion Criteria should be excluded from school until the symptomatic individual receives a negative test result. If the symptomatic individual tests positive, the household member will need to quarantine, unless that household member meets all of the criteria for vaccinated individuals outlined on page 18 of the NJ DOH Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools document.

The Department of Health can also determine a quarantine period that is 17-24 days for household close contacts.

Quarantine Periods

Vaccinated

Close Contact

- Do not need to quarantine (unless community transmission is high and they are symptomatic), be excluded from school, or be tested following an exposure to someone exposed or confirmed for COVID-19.
- Should still monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following an exposure.
- If they experience symptoms, they should isolate themselves from others, be clinically evaluated for COVID-19, including SARS CoV-2 testing and inform their health care provider of their vaccination status at the time of presentation to care.

Test Positive (Low & Moderate Community Rates)

- Quarantine for 10 days past the positive test or 14 days past the onset of the symptoms.
- Must be asymptomatic in order to return to school

Test Positive (High Community Rates)

- Quarantine for 14 days

Unvaccinated

Close Contact

- ❖ Excluded from school for 10 days (or 7 days with negative test results collected at 5-7 days)

Test Positive (Low & Moderate Community Rates)

- Quarantine for 10 days past the positive test or 14 days past the onset of the symptoms.
- Must be asymptomatic in order to return to school

Test Positive (High Community Rates)

- Quarantine for 14 days

SCENARIO QUESTION: What if a student is exposed, yet vaccinated. Student comes to school on day one through three after exposure with no symptoms. On day four, student develops symptoms, so then who becomes close contacts? How do we educate that student? What if the teacher has to quarantine (assuming they are not vaccinated)? What if this impacts all 6 of the classes the student was sitting in?

Testing & Daily Screening

COVID-19 Testing

- We will not be implementing individualized COVID-19 diagnostic testing in school.

Daily Screening

- Hiring additional nurse and two, part-time substitutes.
- We are not performing a daily screening.
- Parental/Caregiver/Student Responsibility to check before getting on a school bus or arriving to school. Each District and School Websites have the [CDC Coronavirus Daily Checker](#). Again, parents/caregivers/students should be mindful of the following symptoms:
 - ◆ **At least two of the following symptoms: fever (measure or subjective), chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headaches, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion, or runny nose; OR**
 - ◆ **At least one of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new olfactory disorder (cannot smell), or new taste disorder.**

Isolation Room Still Needed for Students Who Are Symptomatic In Schools

VACCINATIONS

- ★ **The Black Horse Pike Regional School District has offered five (5) vaccination clinics to assist the community, staff, and students to get vaccinated.**
- ★ **We helped facilitate the vaccination of over 600 individuals.**
- ★ **We have encouraged all staff and students to get vaccinated through our District Newsletters, all-calls, and messaging.**

The Governor announced "**All state employees -including those at state agencies, authorities, and public colleges and universities - are required to complete a full vaccination course or undergo regular testing at a minimum of once to twice each week. Full compliance is required by October 18th.**" We will follow this mandate by October 18th.

QUESTION:

1. **Are we collecting who has been vaccinated (staff and students)?**
 - a. **The State System will provide vaccination information to school nurses. The school nurses will not be overtly sharing this information to anyone.**



Safety Accommodations for Children with Special Needs

For students with special needs, special education classrooms will follow continuous classroom disinfecting protocols for the staff and students assigned to special programs, after every period. Ongoing, daily cleanings will be added to assure that special program classrooms maintain high standards of cleanliness. Special Education Supervisors will monitor compliance and completion of the stated protocols.

For the SCMD program, create and implement a hand washing/sanitizing protocol for the staff and students assigned to special programs. Students and staff will wash their hands before and after eating, after touching their face or mouth, after sneezing or coughing, after using the restroom, after touching another person or materials that have not been sanitized or when applicable. Special Education staff will ensure that the hand washing protocols are followed throughout the day and Special Education Supervisors will monitor compliance with all program staff.

STUDENT SCHEDULE

Bell	Times	Time	A	B	C	D
Announcements	7:20 - 7:25	5 min	Announcements			
1	7:25 - 8:18	53 min	1	4	3	2
2	8:22 - 9:15	53 min	2	1	4	3
3	9:19 - 10:12	53 min	3	2	1	4
Passing Time	10:12-10:16	4 min	Passing Time			
Lunch A	Lunch A 10:16 - 10:41	25 min	LUNCH A Prescribed Lunch for Freshmen and Sophomores Juniors and Seniors assigned to a location			
Passing Time	10:41 - 10:45	4 min	Passing Time			
Lunch B	Lunch B 10:45 - 11:10	25 min	LUNCH B Prescribed Lunch for Juniors and Seniors Freshmen and Sophomores assigned to a location			
Passing Time	11:10 - 11:14	4 min	Passing Time			
5	11:14 -12:07	53 min	5	8	7	6
6	12:11 - 1:04	53 min	6	5	8	7
7	1:08 - 2:01	53 min	7	6	5	8

Ensuring Continuity of Services

Food Service

- The Black Horse Pike Regional School District will continue to participate in providing free meals to all children, so long as the State of New Jersey supports this offering. We will utilize the cafeteria, Library Media Center, two gymnasiums, auditoriums, and classrooms to provide for greater social distancing when meals are offered. Eating in classrooms outside of the designated “lunch service” will be discouraged. We will stagger freshman/ sophomore eating times from junior/senior students’ eating times. We will also promote the use of our outdoor patios during food services with proper supervision.

Mental Health

- We are partnering with Camden County Educational Services Commission to provide an additional social worker to assist with students’ mental health needs. Moreover, we have a Student Assistance Coordinator and Mental Health Counselor, in addition to our School Counseling and Child Study Teams, to address students’ mental health needs. School counselors are also devising a mental health assessment at the beginning of the school year to assess any individual or group concerns that could be addressed upon returning to school. We will be culturally responsive by advocating for participation in school events and co-curricular activities.

Ensuring Continuity of Educational Services

For students who are forced to quarantine because of a positive test or if they are unvaccinated and considered a close contact, the student will be expected to follow the directions of their teachers. Teachers will offer both remote, synchronous instruction and asynchronous materials for students not attending school because of a forced quarantine period.

Attendance will be taken and students are expected to follow the same bell schedule as if they were attending school, unless directed otherwise by the classroom teacher.

We will not offer virtual, synchronous instruction for absences for other reasons.

What Happens if Health Data Force Us to Change Our Student Schedule?

If the Health Data indicate a need to shift our schedule, we will transition in the potential following ways?

A. We will cohort our students, run full days of school with lunches, and students will attend every other day. If a student attends school on Monday, they will get lunch on Monday and take home a breakfast and lunch for Tuesday.

OR

B. We will cohort our students, run half days of school with no lunches, and students will follow a schedule like we did last school year (Four, 50-minute classes in-person, and afternoons are for asynchronous work, extra help, and virtual academic support).

THANKS

Do you have any questions?

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