

January 1, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

At this time, we plan to be back in-person on January 3rd for full-time instruction. There are some noteworthy changes that are important to share. The most important change is that Wayne falls within an area designated by the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) as [VERY HIGH RISK for COVID](#). The problem is that some other changes have not been finalized by the CDC and the NJDOH.

The NJDOE released guidance for schools indicating that the CDC has not yet updated its quarantine timelines for schools. As a result, quarantine times for unvaccinated close contacts remains at 10 days. Asymptomatic unvaccinated close contacts can test between day 5-7 and return to school on day 8 if negative.

We will continue to work with the Wayne Department of Health on a daily basis to monitor COVID-19 case data in Wayne and to navigate new guidance from the New Jersey Department of Health as it is issued. We are pleased to share that additional COVID testing is available for all students and staff at the former Macy's store from January 3rd through the 6th. You must make an [appointment](#) through the Wayne Department of Health. In-district testing for students will begin in the following week and more information will be provided in the coming days.

We are fully prepared to pivot to our 2021-2022 Safe Return to School Plan if we experience any of the following:

- **Staff Shortages** which make us unable to safely keep our schools open for instruction.
- **COVID outbreaks exceeding 2%** of the total school population could result in a shift to the minimal day schedule with a grab and go lunch.

Our [COVID Update](#) page on the Wayne Schools website will include regular updates. Please check back tomorrow for an updated FAQ.

Sincerely,

Mark Toback, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools