

WAYNE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
COVID FAQ
DECEMBER 21, 2021

Is there a plan to shut down schools after the holiday break?

NO-While there are many rumors and other speculation about whether or not the District will be open after the holiday break; there *is no plan to shut down schools*. Instead, every effort is being made to keep our schools open, which is why we are taking steps only to shut down classrooms where there are outbreaks, but otherwise, keep our schools operating normally.

What is the quarantine time for identified close contacts?

Identified close contacts must quarantine for 10 days. The NJDOE recently updated its guidance for K-12 schools providing for a reduced quarantine option regardless of community transmission levels. If a determination of close contacts cannot be made in a timely manner, the entire class may have to be temporarily quarantined until such time.

How does the District identify close contacts?

The District follows the NJDOH guidance for identifying close contacts. Information is gathered from multiple sources to ensure accuracy to the best of our ability. Sources may include direct observations by staff and students, established seating charts, and security camera footage.

Why can't we test out of quarantine if the CDC says it's OK to do that?

The CDC has always recommended fourteen days of quarantine for unvaccinated close contacts. In December 2020, the CDC offered some alternatives to the fourteen-day quarantine. Any option, such as reducing quarantine time or testing out of quarantine that decreases the quarantine period increases the residual post-quarantine transmission risk. In December 2020, this issue was discussed with the Wayne Health Department, and at that time, there was an agreement to scale back quarantine to ten days instead of fourteen days when our region was at moderate risk. Testing out of quarantine or the ten-day quarantine are not options at this time.

RESOURCES

[RecommendationsForLocalHealt...](#)

[COVID-19 Activity Level Report](#)