

Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Dr. Kari McGann Superintendent of Schools 50 Court Street, Flemington, New Jersey 08822-1300

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Dear Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Parents, Staff and Community Members,

The district received notice of two positive COVID-19 cases at J.P. Case Middle School. One is a student and one is a staff member. They were last in the building on January 25. Through contact tracing we were able to confirm that the two cases are not connected. The district also received notice of a positive COVID-19 case of a teacher at Robert Hunter School who was last in the building on January 11.

New Recommendations for COVID-19:

The district is now following the most recent recommendations from the New Jersey Department of Health. Updated on January 19, the <u>COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for K - 12 schools</u> removes the recommendation for schools to exclude close contacts of individuals with COVID-compatible symptoms. While COVID activity in Hunterdon County remains high, schools should continue to exclude staff and students if they have:

- <u>Tested positive</u> (viral test) for COVID-19 Confirmed cases of COVID-19 should stay home until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset and at least 24 hours have passed after resolution of fever without fever reducing medications and improvement in symptoms.
- <u>COVID-19</u> compatible symptoms All individuals with COVID-19 compatible symptoms who have <u>not</u> been tested should stay home until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset and at least 24 hours have passed after resolution of fever without fever reducing medications and improvement in symptoms. An alternate diagnosis (including a positive strep test or influenza swab) without a negative COVID-19 test is not acceptable for individuals who meet COVID-19 exclusion criteria to return to school.
- <u>Potential exposure to COVID-19 from</u> Close contact with a person with COVID-19 in the past 14 days (exclude for 14 days); engaged in domestic and/or international travel in the past 10 days (exclude in accordance with NJ Travel Recommendations and essential employees).
- Siblings of a student who has symptoms and meets 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 sibling is required to self-quarantine.

The Hunterdon County Health Department has updated the *COVID Information Center* website to include the most up to date information on Isolation and Quarantine guidelines, vaccine clinics and availability, testing, and local data and information. View the DOH site for the latest information at https://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/coronavirus.html. The Department of Health offers these links: https://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/Coronavirus/clinics.html and https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019 vaccination.shtml for more information.

To help families that live in Hunterdon County and those that work in Hunterdon County, the County offers a free COVID test. You can find the link <u>here</u> to order a free COVID-19 test. If you have any questions about symptoms or any other concerns for you or your child, please consult your physician or speak with one of our school nurses.

Wishing you good health,

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Dr. Kari McGann Superintendent of Schools