



South Harrison Township Elementary School District

Dr. Scott J. Hogan
Chief School Administrator

Mrs. Sarah Bell
School Business Administrator

Mrs. Laura Flynn
Supervisor of Special Services

Mrs. Allison Thompson
Assistant Principal

January 14, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I hope you are all doing well, staying safe, and warm. I am writing to provide you with the most recent updates as of Friday, 1/14/2022. **As of Tuesday, 1/18/2022, the South Harrison Township School District will resume the full day schedule with arrival occurring from 8:25am-8:35am and dismissal beginning at 3:10pm. We will also resume lunch and breakfast on site. Breakfast will occur in the students' homerooms as it had been previously, and lunch will occur in the cafeteria.** We have made the decision to keep lunch in the cafeteria as there is more room to space the students out in a much larger space, as compared to a packed classroom. Recess will also resume on Tuesday with students remaining in their homeroom cohorts as we've been following all year.

In addition to the pivot back to the full day schedule, the New Jersey Department of Health released adjustments to the guidance provided to school districts for managing COVID-19. A link to the state's updated guidance can be found here: [NJ-DOH Public Health Guidelines for Schools](#) To summarize how these changes will impact our procedures in South Harrison, a summary of the shifts occurring is provided below:

Students who test positive for COVID-19 isolate for 5 days: The student may return to school on Day 6, as long as he or she is fever-free without medication and symptoms have improved. When the student returns to school, on Days 6 through 10, the student will continue to wear a mask throughout the school day. If the student has a fever, or symptoms have not improved, he or she can continue to isolate up to Day 10 and will continue to have access to virtual learning.

Unvaccinated close contacts need to be quarantined for 5 days: The individual may return to school on Day 6, as long as he or she is fever and symptom free without medication with a negative rapid or PCR test result. At this juncture, the NJ-DOH strongly recommends the rapid/antigen test to expedite the return of students to in-person learning. If symptoms begin during the quarantine, the individual must isolate for 5 additional days, unless a negative result can be provided. The day that the symptoms started counts as day 0, and quarantine will last 5 days beyond that. Students can continue to participate in virtual learning through the end of isolation.

Household close contacts procedure: In-home contacts must be quarantined for 5 days, however, if the positive family member can not isolate and stay masked in the home over the course of the quarantine period, then the in-home close contacts must quarantine for a full 10 days. This is inclusive of 5 days the positive person must isolate, and 5 days quarantine for the close-contact.

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Please note: This is a summary of adjustments being made, and is not all inclusive of COVID-19 protocols or procedures we must follow. Please contact our school nurse or administration with any specific questions you may have.

Additional layered safety measures that remain in place:

- Only essential service providers will be permitted beyond the lobby of the building until further notice. All meetings with parents, the community, and other outside organizations will be held virtually while students are present on the school's grounds. **This virtual format does not pertain to meetings of the board of education.**
- **Clubs and activities both during and after school are on hold for in-person meetings one additional week from Tuesday 1/18/2022 - Friday 1/21/2022.** Clubs and activities may continue to meet virtually, if able. The YMCA program will continue to operate as usual. **Use of facilities by outside organizations during non-school hours will resume this week. We hope to resume in-person clubs and activities soon, and will continue to keep everyone updated.**

Thank you all, as always, for taking time to read over all of this information. I know this has been a trying period for many. We are looking forward to getting back to full-time in-person learning this coming week, and I remain optimistic that by Spring we might finally see an end to the pandemic as we've known it. Many signs are pointing in the right direction, even if it remains hard to see at this moment. As always, feel free to reach out with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Dr. Scott J. Hogan
Chief School Administrator



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