

Dear Parents/Guardians

### Flyers

There will be a COVID Vaccination clinic tomorrow, Saturday, January 15th in the Park Avenue Complex Gym from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. First dose, second dose, and booster shots (if eligible) will be available to anyone ages 5 and up.

The Winter 2021 Freehold Municipal Alliance Newsletter is out which includes an article from Freehold Intermediate School Counselor Mrs. Elkin on supporting the social and emotional needs of our students. The newsletter is in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

Registration is underway for the Freehold Soccer Spring league for students in grades PK-8. Information in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

### News

It has been a challenging two weeks for many of our families on top of what has already been a trying two years. I sent an e-mail to all of our educators earlier today thanking them for their resilience during this time. I also must thank you all for the support you give to not only your child, but to the school community at large. As I mentioned in an e-mail to you earlier this week the New Jersey Department of Health has released updated quarantine recommendations for schools. We have revised our own protocols going forward based on this. Notably we are keeping student COVID positive isolation at 10 days for now, but revising close contact quarantine times. This is based both on our current COVID conditions and the inability for students to avoid others while eating or drinking which the current recommendations call for. Some experts predict that this latest wave of new COVID cases will subside in two or three weeks. As the case counts come down we will reevaluate our policies and may this adjust based on current conditions.

The COVID protocols are revised as follows:

#### Student Tests Positive for COVID-19 – No Change from Current Protocols

- The student who tests (+) must isolate for 10 days and is NOT permitted to come to school.
- **You must continue to notify the school nurse if your child or anyone in your household tests positive for COVID.**
- Unvaccinated close contacts who live in the same household are required to quarantine for 10 days. If the household close-contacts are fully vaccinated, they are exempt from quarantine.

- There is no testing requirement to re-enter school after testing positive.

#### Close Contact - Outside of the Home

- If a student is identified as a close contact in school or outside the home, they must quarantine for 5 days after the last exposure to the confirmed positive case.
- The student will be permitted to return to school as long as they do not become symptomatic during the quarantine time frame.
- Fully vaccinated asymptomatic students who are close contacts are not required to quarantine.
- Please contact the school if the student becomes symptomatic or tests for COVID during quarantine.
- There is no testing requirement to re-enter school after exposure to COVID.

**Again I reiterate you must immediately notify the school nurse if your child tests positive for COVID or is awaiting test results. Either way a student is not permitted to re-enter school until cleared by the school nurse.**

The school nurses have been doing an incredible job of guiding us all through this time and they care deeply for all of our students. If you find yourself in any of the above situations contact them and they will guide you through it. As I stated above if case counts do start going down we will reevaluate these protocols and notify you of any changes.

Regards,

Joe Howe

Joseph Howe, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

