



246 Warren Turnpike Road
Falls Village, CT 06031
Central Office (860) 824-0855
Business Office (860) 824-0875
Fax (860) 824-1271
www.region1schools.org

January 3, 2022

Dear Region 1 Parents and Caregivers,

On December 27, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released [updated guidance](#) regarding the appropriate duration of quarantine and isolation for COVID-19. Based on this updated guidance and the science supporting it, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) advises at this time that it is appropriate to allow school districts to change their operating rules regarding quarantine, isolation, testing, and return to in-school activities. These changes are designed to focus on the increased risk from individuals reporting for school-related activities with active symptoms of illness and the decreased risk for and from individuals who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

The table on page two of this letter outlines the revised Region 1 protocols including different scenarios that may occur in school settings, considerations for each individual situation, and appropriate actions for individuals and schools to take in response.

As part of its recent communication, the DPH is also allowing schools to discontinue the practice of contact tracing in schools. However, given the relatively small sizes of all of our schools, we are able to contact trace in school and will continue to advise families when students have come into close contact with a student who is positive for COVID-19.


In addition to changing the quarantine protocol, we are also making some changes to communication about COVID cases in Region 1 as follows:

- We will no longer report family members who have tested positive for COVID-19.
- We will restrict daily communications to the districts/schools where the cases occur.
- We will publish a weekly regional summary on Friday afternoons.

Because the in-school transmission has been extremely low to nonexistent in the Region 1 schools, we are choosing to make these changes as allowed by the DPH. If circumstances change, we are prepared to go back to more strict and conservative quarantine protocols. Please be assured that we will continue to strictly follow safety protocols while in school and we thank you for supporting the importance of these virus transmission mitigation practices by discussing the need for compliance with your children.

Please contact me or your Principal if you have any questions about the contents of this letter.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

FA3841308E6A444...
Lisa B. Carter
Superintendent

Superintendent: Lisa Carter
lcarter@region1schools.org

Asst. Superintendents: Dr. Scott Fellows/Jill Pace
sfellows@region1schools.org / jp pace@region1schools.org

Business Manager: Samuel Herrick
sherrick@region1schools.org

2021-2022 COVID-19 Safety Protocols*

1. Please continue with daily screening for COVID-19 symptoms using the [DAILY HOME SCREENING FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF](#) as a resource. **Students and staff should stay home if experiencing any symptoms** and call the school to report the illness.
2. Please continue to inform the school nurse if you or anyone in your home has tested positive for COVID-19 or is being tested for COVID-19. Please be prepared to provide the following information:
 - a. Date of the onset of symptoms
 - b. Date of test
 - c. Vaccination status
 - d. Contact with any other school families within 48 hours of the onset of symptoms
3. Quarantine/Isolation

	Student/Staff with any COVID-19 symptoms	Student/Staff with no COVID-19 symptoms
<p>If fully vaccinated against COVID-19 <i>(defined as two weeks after second dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or first dose of Johnson & Johnson vaccine)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Isolate at home.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Test for COVID-19 (either self-test or at a testing site).**</p> <p>If the test result is negative, return to activities when fever-free for at least 24 hrs. and other symptoms are significantly improved.</p> <p>If the test result is positive, isolate for at least 5 days, return to activities on day 6 or later when fever-free for at least 24 hrs. and other symptoms are significantly improved.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wear a mask at all times when around others for an additional 5 days (i.e., through day 10).</p>	<p><i>If notified of a close contact with a COVID-19 case outside of the school day:</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Continue with in-person learning.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Test for COVID-19 (either self-test or at a testing site) 5 days after the exposure.</p> <p>Consider quarantining for 5- days from other activities outside of school, especially if notified of an extended high-intensity exposure (e.g., household contact, unmasked social contact, contact during athletic activities).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wear a mask at all times during any activities when around others for 10 days.</p>
<p>If only partially vaccinated (one dose of a two dose COVID-19 vaccine or within two weeks of final dose) or if unvaccinated or vaccination status is unknown.</p> <p style="background-color: yellow;">Note: Individuals who do not test will be required to quarantine for ten days</p>	<p><i>If notified of a close contact with a COVID-19 case outside of the school day:</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Isolate at home for a minimum of 5 days since last exposure to the COVID-19 in case.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Test for COVID-19 (either self-test or at a testing site).</p> <p>Return to activities on day 6 or later when fever-free for at least 24 hrs. and other symptoms are significantly improved.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wear a mask at all times during any activities when around others for an additional 5 days (i.e., through day 10).</p>	<p><i>If no known close contact with a COVID-19 case outside of the school day:</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Isolate at home.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Test for COVID-19 (either self-test or at a testing site).</p> <p>If the test result is negative, return to activities when fever-free for at least 24 hrs. and other symptoms are significantly improved.</p> <p>If test result is positive, isolate for at least 5 days after symptoms began, return to activities on day 6 or later when fever-free for at least 24 hrs. and other symptoms are significantly improved, and wear a mask at all times during any activities when around others for an additional 5 days (i.e., through day 10).</p>
		<p><i>If notified of a close contact with a COVID-19 case outside of the school day:</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Quarantine at home from school, extracurricular activities, and other activities for 5 days from the last exposure to the COVID-19 case.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Test for COVID-19 (either self-test or at a testing site) 5 days after the exposure.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wear a mask at all times during any activities when around others for an additional 5 days (i.e., through day 10).</p>

***There may be additional quarantine requirements for athletes. Anne MacNeil will update coaches regarding any changes.**

****Families and staff will be required to send documentation indicating a negative lab test or a picture of a negative home test result.**

Superintendent: Lisa Carter
lcarter@region1schools.org

Asst. Superintendents: Dr. Scott Fellows/Jill Pace
sfellows@region1schools.org / jpace@region1schools.org

Business Manager: Samuel Herrick
sherrick@region1schools.org