

March 10, 2022

Dear Manhasset School Community,

As you know, when masks officially became optional for all individuals inside our schools, we marked a significant milestone in the COVID-19 pandemic. Last week, the Department of Health released updated [guidance](#) and an [FAQ document](#) for schools, which aligns with the District's [FAQ](#) document released on March 1, 2022.

In this new environment, we are continuing to transition the District to pre-pandemic operations as follows:

**Food Services:** Effective Monday, March 14, we are planning a full return of students to the cafeteria and a resumption of pre-pandemic cafeteria operations. As such, all students will eat lunch together in their building's cafeteria. Each building's cafeteria will retain some individual desks spaced 6 feet apart for those students who are more comfortable sitting physically distanced. As a reminder, our offerings have been adjusted to meet the FDA's program requirements for free lunch for all students. This program will remain in effect through at least the remainder of this school year.

**Cleared4Class:** We are phasing out the Cleared4Class daily health screening attestation. Parents are no longer required to complete Cleared4Class. For the time being, we will only use Cleared4Class to upload test results and for parents to communicate with our Health offices. During this period of transition, only those individuals who are positive need to complete Cleared4Class. Your child's school nurse will call families who report positive results to review our positive case protocols.

**Positive Case Notifications:** To provide transparency, we will continue our practice of notifying the community of positive cases, by building and by grade level. In addition, we will provide classroom level notifications of positive cases so potentially exposed individuals and their families can self-monitor for developing symptoms. As a reminder, the District has an ample supply of at-home COVID-19 tests for those who wish to test at home. At home tests are available through each school's health office.

**Simultaneous Teaching via Zoom:** As we continue to return to pre-pandemic operations, we are also planning to phase out simultaneous teaching via Zoom. Simultaneously instructing students in class and at home has been challenging for our faculty and we are grateful that they provided this service throughout the pandemic. Our transition to pre-pandemic practices will occur on Monday, March 28, 2022. When this occurs, teachers will provide access to instructional materials and provide students with the opportunity to make up work upon their return to school, consistent with our pre-pandemic practices.

We recognize that it has been a very long road to get to this point in our effort to return to pre-pandemic operations. We are grateful to our students, our staff, and our entire school community for their partnership and patience throughout these unprecedented times. We are eagerly looking forward to continuing the path to a bright and productive future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gaurav Passi  
Acting Superintendent of Schools