



EAST GREENWICH TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Andrea Evans, Superintendent
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W. Todd Jones, President of the Board of Education
Dr. Kimberley Chiodi, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Monday, November 30, 2020

Dear East Greenwich School Community,

As we prepare to return to in-person learning on December 7th, we are closely monitoring the number of COVID cases in our region and our community. Please be advised there are two factors which could impact our ability to move forward with these plans.

1. The New Jersey Department of Health recently updated guidelines and procedures for excluding individuals from school, and we anticipate this may significantly impact the volume of students and staff who must quarantine. When in the "High Risk" level, individuals who have COVID-compatible symptoms, and close contacts of an individual with COVID-compatible symptoms, now must quarantine.
 - a. Any student or staff member with **COVID-compatible symptoms** must **isolate for 10 days** or until the individual **tests negative** for COVID-19. COVID-compatible symptoms are defined as:
Any **one** of the following symptoms: coughing, shortness of breath, loss of sense of taste or smell
OR
Two or more of the following symptoms: fever, chills, shivers, muscle aches, headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion/runny nose
 - b. Any **close contact** of an individual with COVID-compatible symptoms **must quarantine for 14 days** or until the individual **tests negative** for COVID-19.
 - c. An alternate diagnosis is no longer accepted for COVID-compatible symptoms.

The complete guidelines can be found here: [NJDOH COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools](#).

2. Currently, our region is designated as "High Risk" by the New Jersey Department of Health. Risk levels are updated weekly on Thursdays. Should we move into the "Very High Risk" category, we will be **required** to be fully remote. We anticipate the next report will be made available on Thursday, December 3rd. You can view the weekly reports here: [NJ Department of Health COVID Activity Level Index Weekly Report](#)

We are committed to providing a safe learning environment for our students and staff, and our goal is to reopen our schools for in-person instruction. However, the factors above may possibly require an adjustment to our plans. I apologize for the inconvenience this uncertainty brings to our families and staff.

Should we need to change our plans for the week of December 7th, this information will be communicated by Thursday, December 3rd at the latest. We will continue to monitor this situation, and I will continue to communicate with you as more information becomes available.

Sincerely,

Andrea Evans

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