# **COVID Updates: New Guidelines Coming Soon**

Jonathan Hart, Ph.D. Superintendent of Schools Board of Education Meeting: February 22, 2022





- » Some statistics:
  - » Current case rates
  - » Current attendance
  - » Updates from our local DOH
- » Changes made to the mask mandate
- » Test to Stay

Our goal is to prioritize **in-person**, **full-time** instruction to the extent possible. We are hoping for **minimal interruption** to students' instructional schedules. We will do this while balancing the requirements of the public health situation.

1.

# **Statistics**

What is our case count? What did attendance look like?

#### **Student Attendance (a Snapshot)**

2/15/22			
	Virtual	Absent	
District:	11	66	
RMS	1	18	
HBS	0	19	
TBS	7	15	
WHS	3	14	

2/17/22			
	Virtual	Absent	
District:	6	61	
RMS	3	16	
нвѕ	0	18	
твѕ	3	8	
WHS	0	19	

## Positive Cases Dashboard: February and Total

#### February 2022

Building	Staff Members	Students
RMS		
HBS		5
WHS	1	3
TBS		7
BOE/District		Х
<u>Total</u>	1	15

#### 2021-2022

Building	Staff Members	Students
RMS	16	110
HBS	8	82
WHS	13	77
TBS	10	81
BOE/District	11	Х
<u>Total</u>	58	350

Last Updated:

2/17/22

2.

# **Masks in Schools**

What did the Governor announce? Are masks required at anytime after March 7?

Masks will become optional in schools on March 7.

The Department of Health is expected to update their K-12 School Guidelines prior to March 7.

There may be instances when masks will be required in schools. This will likely be tied to local case rates and/or transmission rates.

Yes.

Masks are required on **school buses**. This will remain even after March 7.

There is a federal regulation regarding public transportation and the mask requirement. This includes planes, trains, subways, etc.

3.

# **Test-to-Stay**

What is Test-to-Stay? How will it work?

Test to Stay (TTS) combines contact tracing and serial testing to allow <u>asymptomatic school associated</u> close contacts who meet the <u>criteria for quarantine</u> <u>and do not test positive</u> for COVID to continue in-person learning.

This eliminates the need for quarantine if the above criteria is met.

### The child must:

- » Not have any signs or symptoms of COVID-19;
- » Meet the criteria of close contact in school;
- » Adhere to mask-wearing, except for eating/drinking;
- » Submit to multiple tests (at least 2).

#### **The Protocol**

Testing should occur at the school. However, the DOH offers an <u>alternative of home-based testing</u>.

The test must be a rapid antigen test.

Students should be tested immediately after notification of close contact. Testing continues every other day until day 5 or one additional test at day 5.

Any student testing positive will notify school immediately.

#### **The Details**

We are still investigating the Test-to-Stay protocol.

Stay tuned for more information.

Meanwhile, if you are looking for testing options the <u>HCDOH</u> has created a website.

# Remember: Use the new COVID Reporting form! Our Nurses Thank You!

THANKS!

# Any questions?

