

Syosset Central School District

Health and Safety FAQ Update for **the 2022-2023 School Year**

Masks

- Mask wearing is not required and is optional for all students and staff. Student and staff decisions to wear or not to wear masks will be honored and respected.

Physical Distance

- No physical or social distancing protocols will be in place.
- All classrooms, furnishings, and student spaces have been returned to pre-COVID set-up. Cafeterias, Band and Chorus rooms, Physical Education classes, and science laboratory spaces have returned to pre-COVID procedures

COVID Testing

- There are currently no COVID testing requirements in place for students and/or staff to attend school.
- For the safety and health of the school community, individuals experiencing possible COVID symptoms (i.e., fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea) are strongly encouraged to take a COVID test and to remain home until they are symptom-free or the cause of their symptoms has been identified as non-COVID related.
- The District has an ample supply of at-home test kits for students, staff, and community members. These are available in each school building nurse's office.

COVID Reporting

- We will continue to ask that any positive cases of COVID be reported to the District by completing the online COVID reporting tool.
- The District will continue to report positive COVID cases to the community/on the District website.

Quarantine, Close Contacts, Contact Tracing

- Those who have tested positive for COVID should isolate for 5 days at home.
- After isolating for five (5) days, it is recommended that those who have tested positive wear a mask for an additional five (5) days upon return to school or work.
- The [new guidance issued by New York State](#) states that "Those with symptoms may resume attending school after the five (5) days if:
 - "they are fever free without fever-reducing medicine for 24 hours and if their symptoms are improving, and
 - "they wear a mask through day 10 (day 1 is the first full day following the day they receive the positive test result, regardless of symptom onset)." (p.2)
- Close contacts of a positive COVID case are not required to quarantine.

- Close contacts are not required to quarantine, therefore the District will no longer engage in individual contact tracing.
- Should a positive case of COVID be reported in your child's classroom, families will receive an email notification of this possible exposure so that they can make informed health decisions.
- Individuals exposed to COVID, regardless of vaccination status, are recommended to wear a well-fitted mask for a full 10-day period and get tested at least five (5) days after close contact, or sooner if symptoms develop.

Classroom Instruction

- Instruction is in-person for all students.
- The district will continue the current protocol for providing virtual instructional support for students in isolation due to a positive COVID test.

Ventilation, Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols

- All schools meet mechanical ventilation requirements.
- All cleaning and disinfecting protocols have returned to pre-COVID health and safety requirements and standards.

Bus Transportation

- Pre-COVID bus routing and seating will be in place.
- Mask wearing is optional for students and adults riding on school buses.

Athletics

- All Athletics have returned to pre-COVID procedures.
- There is no COVID testing requirement for sports participation.

Field Trips

- Field trips are returning this year.
- For the time being, COVID testing will be required prior to overnight field trips to:
 - ensure the health and safety of classmates and chaperones,
 - minimize the risk that is created by splitting the chaperone team to provide supervision for both healthy and sick students, and
 - minimize the potential for a parent to have to travel to the trip location to retrieve their sick child. We will evaluate this requirement on an ongoing basis.

Building Visitors

- All pre-COVID procedures for building visitors are in effect.
- All building visitors are required to have an appointment or invitation to visit the school, and must show government-issued identification upon arrival.
- At the elementary level, parents will once again have opportunities to visit classrooms throughout the school year. More information regarding classroom visits will be forthcoming from the individual school buildings.