



Michael T. Redfearn
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E.T. Hamilton School
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Osage School
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Voorhees Middle School

March 4, 2022

Dear Voorhees Community,

On Friday, February 25, 2022, all New Jersey school superintendents had the opportunity to meet with Judith Persichilli (NJ Health Commissioner) and Dr. Allen-McMillan (NJ Education Commissioner). All participants were updated on the latest recommendations and/or requirements pertaining to COVID and K-12 public schools. On Tuesday, March 1, 2022, I met with all school nurses to discuss these updates and mandates. On Thursday March 3, 2022, all Camden County superintendents participated in a meeting with our local Camden County Department of Health. The following guidelines will be implemented starting Monday, March 7, 2022.

- The federal mandate requiring all passengers and drivers to be fully masked while riding a school bus has been lifted. Starting March 7, 2022, the wearing of a face covering on school buses will be optional.
- Regardless of vaccination status, all positive students will be required to quarantine for 5 days. Parents may choose to have their child remain all remote for 10 days or return to school after day 5 but must wear a properly fitted face covering day 6-10.
- Unvaccinated close contact within the family setting will be required to quarantine for 10 days but may return to school on day 8 with a negative test on day 5-7.
- **Elementary Schools:** in the event of a positive COVID case, notification will be sent via email to the appropriate homeroom, and parents will be encouraged to monitor their child for symptoms.
- **VMS:** in the event of a positive COVID case, notification will be sent via email to the appropriate grade level, and parents will be encouraged to monitor their child for symptoms.
- Daily Community COVID Notifications will discontinue; however, notifications will be updated and posted on the COVID-19 Dashboard on the District Website.
- Discontinue daily temperature checks for all students and staff each morning.
- Please be sure to log into the "Parent Portal" if you would like your child to continue to wear a face covering. A form has been created to assist in keeping track of your request.
- **As per the NJDOE, remote instruction is only for students who test positive or have been exposed and waiting for test results.**
- **The district reserves the right to revert to more stringent guidelines should there be a noticeable increase in COVID cases.**

We continue to encourage families to keep their children home when sick. Keeping our schools safe can only happen if we work together. We hope to continue to see a downward trend allowing us to remove additional protocols in the near future.

Respectfully,

Michael Redfearn
Acting Superintendent