

# **Nutley Public Schools**

315 Franklin Ave. Nutley, NJ 07110

Dr. Julie Glazer, Superintendent

Tel: 973·661·3500 iglazer@nutleyschools.org

March 29, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians.

Thank you for taking the time to go into the Parent Portal and confirm the instructional choice for your child. The information has been valuable to us as we endeavor to increase in-person instruction.

Even with all good intent and best-made plans, the COVID-19 pandemic is not done with us yet! Although hospitalizations and deaths attributed to the virus have been decreasing, transmission rates are once again over 1.0 and case rates are in the Red (very high) zone. In addition, the CDC travel guidelines will require quarantine for those who opt to travel outside of the region, even for those who have had COVID in the past 90 days, and for those who are fully vaccinated due to the high spread of COVID variants.

# **Virtual Instruction: April 12-16**

Therefore, the Nutley Public Schools will be 100% virtual for instruction the week following Spring break, April 12 - 16, 2021, to mitigate the transmission of COVID due to the anticipated travel of staff and families over break.

#### **Spring Break Travel**

Travelers other than to New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and Delaware, should quarantine for a full 7 days after travel, with testing occurring 3-5 days after the trip. **The district will provide testing for any student who has traveled and wishes to be tested on Wednesday, April 14, 2021. Please register by Wednesday, April 7** at: <a href="https://forms.gle/BdDCgkHyimgqTqfv7">https://forms.gle/BdDCgkHyimgqTqfv7</a>. If you chose not to have your traveling child tested, he/she should quarantine for 10 days, post travel. If you have questions, please contact studentcovidtesting@nutleyschools.org.

## **Increased In-Person Instruction: Elementary Students**

On Monday, April 19, 2021, our PK-6 students who have selected the in-person learning option, will return to the buildings 5 mornings per week at the same entry and dismissal times.

## **Middle and High School Students**

While the Governor's office, CDC, and Departments of Health support our current in-person instruction, and plans for increased PK-6, we are not able to move to five days in grades 7-12 until after these cases and transmission rates become lower. Our secondary students, those in grades 7-12 will remain in their current cohorts until further notice. Those who have chosen to switch to in-person instruction may attend in-person on the current cohort schedule beginning Monday, April 19, 2021.

When the regional risk level has decreased below Orange (see the following risk matrix), the secondary cohorts will be combined to provide more frequent in-person instruction for those who have made that selection, as per the most current CDC guidance.

#### **Grab and Go Meals**

Grab and Go meals will continue to be provided at dismissal. Community meal distribution for any resident child under the age of 18 will continue at Nutley High School on Wednesday April 7 and Wednesday April 14.

Your building principal will be in touch with more details. You will be contacted regarding programs and activities scheduled during the week of April 12.

Sincerely,

# **COVID-19 Regional Risk Matrix**

Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	Very High Risk
Recommend full in-person instruction <sup>1</sup> . A minimum of 3 feet of physical distancing between students should be maintained in classrooms with strict adherence to mask-wearing.  In response to ill students and staff, follow NJDOH School Exclusion List  * If ill person had potential exposure in past 14 days, follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; wait at least 24 hours and clean/disinfect areas where ill person spent time. Permit limited activities involving interaction with multiple cohorts, ensuring adherence to precautions.	Recommend full in-person instruction¹. A minimum of 3 feet of physical distancing between students should be maintained in classrooms with strict adherence to mask-wearing.  In response to ill students and staff with COVID-19 compatible symptoms, follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; wait at least 24 hours and clean/disinfect areas where ill person spent time.  Recommend minimizing activities that involve interaction with multiple cohorts (i.e. clubs, assemblies, sports).	Elementary schools: Recommend full in person instruction. A minimum of 3 feet of physical distancing between students should be maintained in classrooms with strict adherence to mask-wearing.  Middle/High Schools: Consider inperson instruction if able to maximize physical distancing of 6 feet or more. Recommend 6 feet of physical distancing between students to the maximum extent practicable with strict adherence to mask-wearing.  In response to ill students and staff with COVID-19 compatible symptoms, follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; wait at least 24 hours and clean/disinfect areas where ill person spent time.  Recommend restricting activities that involve interaction with multiple cohorts (i.e. clubs,	Recommend fully remote learning

RISK LEVELS GREEN, YELLOW, AND ORANGE (IF OPEN FOR IN-PERSON OR HYBRID LEARNING):

- Enforce mask-wearing at all times.
- Implement physical distancing measures to the extent described in the regional risk matrix.
- In response to a COVID-19 case among staff or students, follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; work with local health
  department to identify and exclude close contacts following NJDOH guidance; refer to guidance on cleaning and
  disinfection.
- Offer students, teachers, and staff who are at high risk of severe illness or who live with people at high risk the option of virtual instruction.
- Require staff and students to stay home when sick.
- Require students and staff, unless fully vaccinated and asymptomatic, to stay home if they have been in close
  contact with someone with COVID-19 within the past 14 days. If someone in their household is being tested for
  COVID-19 due to illness, students and staff, unless fully vaccinated and asymptomatic, should stay home until the
  test result is received.
- Have a policy for daily symptom screening for students and staff; have plans for students and staff to report symptoms that develop during the day.
- In conjunction with local health department, identify COVID-19 rapid testing resources (viral testing) for when staff and students develop <u>COVID-19 compatible symptoms</u>.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily.
- Ensure adequate hand hygiene supplies are readily available.
- <u>Improve airflow</u> to the greatest extent possible.
- Consider physical barriers/partitions as an acceptable additional mitigation strategy where feasible.