

August 31, 2021
Revised: 12/23/21



HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

2021-22 SAFE RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN

299 Pidgeon Hill Rd.
Wantage, NJ 07461



Mission Statement

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Mission Statement

High Point Regional High School, in partnership with staff, family and community, is dedicated to the quest for individual excellence. By fostering high standards of achievement, we prepare students to become responsible and productive members of a diverse society.



Recent Communication

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August 13, 2021 Letter from Dr. Scott Ripley

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

299 PIDGEON HILL ROAD – SUSSEX, NJ 07461-2733
fax 973-875-0904 www.hpregional.org

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Superintendent
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Ms. Tina Palacki
Business Administrator/Board Secretary
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tpalacki@hpregional.org

August 13, 2021

Dear High Point Community:

In a few weeks, High Point will open for the 2021-22 school year. We eagerly await the return of our students, and we look forward to the liveliness of a campus bustling with excitement, learning, laughter, challenges and achievements.

For 17 months our students and staff have persevered through unprecedented circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic. While this letter addresses several health and safety protocols which will remain in effect for the *immediate future*, it is with a great sense of hope, and genuine optimism that we look forward to a full and robust school year; one that sees us overcome the final stages of the pandemic and increasingly welcomes the return of normal school experiences for all students. We ask for your patience, and for you to join us in a spirit of optimism and continued perseverance as we enter the 2021-22 school year.

General Information:

- High Point will be open to all students, for five full days of school each week. Instruction will be in-person. We have no plans for using cohorts, or having a hybrid or remote system of instruction.
- Freshman Orientation will take place on Thursday, September 2, and the first day of school for all students will be Friday September 3.
- More details regarding the opening of the school year will be communicated in the coming days by our principal, Mr. Jon Tallamy.

Health & Safety Protocols & Related Information: (NJ 2021-22 Health & Safety Guidelines)

Masks:

- As per Gov. Murphy's *Executive Order 251*, all students, staff and visitors will be required to wear a mask while indoors.
- Some exceptions (respiratory illness, extreme heat, rigorous physical activity, eating/drinking) to this mandate are permitted.
- Masks will not be required outdoors. In Physical Education classes, the requirement to wear a mask while indoors will depend upon specific class activities.

August 18, 2021 Letter from Mr. Jon Tallamy

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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Phone: (973) 875-3101 Fax: (973) 875-2756
www.hpregional.org

Jonathan L. Tallamy
Principal

Lindsay LeDuc Young
Assistant Principal

August 18, 2021

Dear Student/Parent:

"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try one more time." Thomas A. Edison

I hope you are enjoying your summer and cherishing time with your friends and family. This summer has been like no other and the upcoming school year will be like no other either. To our returning students and parents, we have faced so many challenges since March 2020, but we worked together to manage those challenges as best that we could and learned where we can grow more. To our incoming 9th graders and parents, welcome to our High Point family, we are excited to start our journey with you, and yes we are feeling the same anxiousness that you are. Our priority is the health, safety, and social emotional well being of all our students and staff as we have carefully implemented the NJDOE and NJDOH health guidelines.

Thursday, September 2nd, is our "Freshman Orientation" for all of our incoming 9th graders, please review the 2021-22 Schedules. All freshmen should follow their bus passes that were mailed home. Upon arrival at the school, please report directly to the auditorium at 7:35 am and the buses will depart at 11:55 am. During the orientation, they will have an opportunity to meet peer leaders, guidance counselors, and administrative staff. The 9th graders will then follow their normal schedules, meeting their classroom teachers, as well as getting acclimated to the school building. Chromebooks will be distributed to all 9th graders in their first period class.

Prior to the first day of school, students need to log into Genesis and view their updated schedule and 1st period class. All students were sent their Genesis student portal information through their High Point email account. You can also check under the bus tab in Genesis for the bus stop and pick up time, as this information may have changed since the letter you received regarding bussing.

Friday, September 3rd, is the first day of school for all students, we will be following an All Periods Meet Schedule 2021-22 Schedules. Students will report directly to 1st period, all students will receive a new student ID, a final schedule, and we will hold a brief Virtual Wildcat Period during this time. All students should bring their school issued Chromebooks to school. Grab and go breakfast and lunches will be provided every full day of school at no cost for the entire school year. Students will be charged for any ala carte items. Students need to have money in their Payschools' account for chargeable items. To receive other Free and Reduced Lunch benefits you still have to complete an application enclosed.

Parking applications will be available to eligible Senior and Junior drivers on the first day of school (9/3). All requirements must be met before this privilege will be granted. Students who have met all requirements or who had a tag last year may drive on the first day of school. Students and Parents that need to complete one session of the Drive Right Program. The student program will be held on August 26 at 6:00 pm in the cafeteria. The parent program will be held on August 26 at 7:00 pm. If you have any questions please contact Jim Rice at jrice@hpregional.org.



Communication & Responsiveness

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Communication with stakeholders will continue to be provided on a regular basis through our district's website - www.hpregional.org



COVID-19 Related School Plans



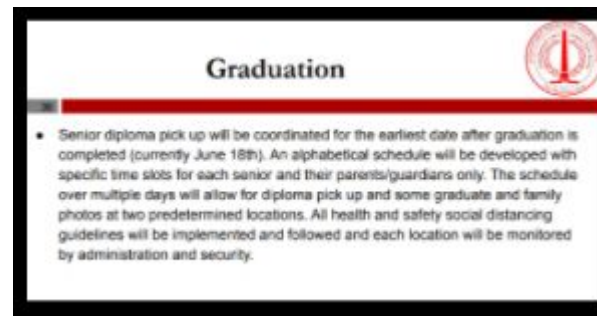
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The 2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan is the fifth comprehensive plan High Point has published regarding its response to COVID-19.

[Health Related Preparedness Plan](#)
[\(March 2020\):](#)



[Health Related Closure Plan](#)
[\(June 2020\)](#)





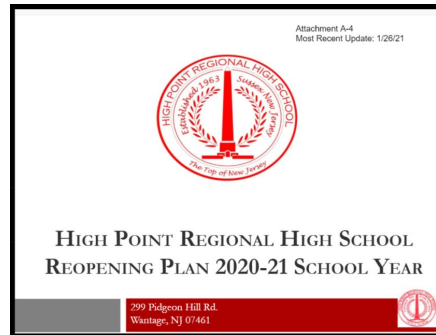
COVID-19 Related School Plans

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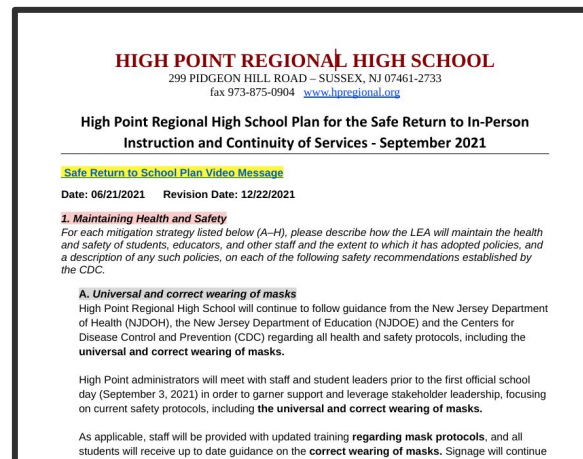
2020-21 Reopening Plan

- Published: August 2020
- Revised: January 2021



Safe Return to School Plan

- Created: June 2021
- Revised: December 2021





Collaboration with Stakeholders

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During the past 17 months, High Point has collaborated with the following stakeholder groups, as well as with members of our Reopening Task Force.

- **Staff**
- **Students**
- **Parents**
- **Municipal Officials**
- **Legal Counsel**
- **Insurance Experts**
- **Medical Consultants**
- **HP Sending Districts**
- **Food Services**
- **Law Enforcement**
- **Neighboring School Districts**
- **HP Education Association**
- **NJ Department of Education**
- **NJ School Boards Association**

Thank You to our Reopening Task Force!



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Itala Altamirano	Gib Carter	Eileen Farinella	Collette Maat	Libby Rieger	Joe Southard
Deborah Anderson	Diane Castle	Brian Feuer	Janice Matthews	Michele Rieger	Nicholas Southard
Harriet Anderson	Julianna Conklin	Carmen Folz	Caroline McCormick	Scott Ripley	Denise Straway
Thomas Antcliff	Joseph Corazza	Heather Gonzalez	Stephen McGrath	Robyn Platz	Rohit Suri
Spencer Arnold	Kevin Craig	Ken Grisback	Kristen Meichsner	David Ruppert	Jon Tallamy
Aaron Baker	Erica DeGeorge	Carl Hensal	John Meyer	William Sabo	Gayle Tidona
Getta Bakker	Tasha DeGeorge	Lisa Hodgins	Art Mina	Kirstin Sabo	Todd VanOrden
Stacie Bortnick	Todd Deming	Maryam Holder	Patricia Nugent	Rebecca Sarno	Beata Wilk
Bill Brottman	Aldo Deodino	Jessica Imhof	Shannon Percey	Peter Schoch	June Williams
Christine Cairns	Chris Dexter	Lorri Kaufman	William Percey	Lis Schuman	Christina Wyble
Seamus Campbell	Kayla Diee	William Kehoe	Dan Perez	Mia Sciabica	Dan Yardley
Elise Cantu	Todd DiNetta	Krista LaBar	Melanie Portilla	Tracey Shauger	Elke Yetter
Lucy Cantu	Christine Donatello	Matt LaBar	Cheryll Post	Randy Shorr	
Frank Cardinale	Brian Drelick	Lindsay LeDuc	Sue Pulkstenis	Jill Shrope	
Lauren Cardinale	Wayne Dunn	Natalie Lewis	Coleen Ranzan	LeeAnn Smith	
Laura Carr	Nanette Fandino-Diaz	Kory Loyola	Jim Rice	Steven Smith	

Daily Planning Team:

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Scott Ripley
Superintendent



Jon Tallamy
Principal



Seamus Campbell
Director of Curriculum
& Instruction



Aldo Deodino
Supervisor of
Humanities



Brian Drelick
Supervisor of
STEM



Lindsay Young
Assistant
Principal



Chris Dexter
Athletic Director/
Supervisor of
Health & PE



Courtney
Delaney
Supervisor of
Pupil Personnel
Services



June Williams
Transportation
Coordinator



Stephen McGrath
Head of Grounds
& Maintenance



Jim Rice
Director of
Safety & Security



Dan Yardley
District
Technology
Coordinator

2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan



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High Point's Safe Return to School Plan represents the district's intentions, as of August 24, 2021 (*updated 12/22/21*), to provide the best possible learning environment for our school community.

This plan provides access to previous plans, enabling stakeholders to view the numerous steps taken by HPRHS to provide comprehensive support to all students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This plan is subject to the evolving guidance High Point receives from the NJ Department of Health and the NJ Department of Education. It will be revised accordingly.

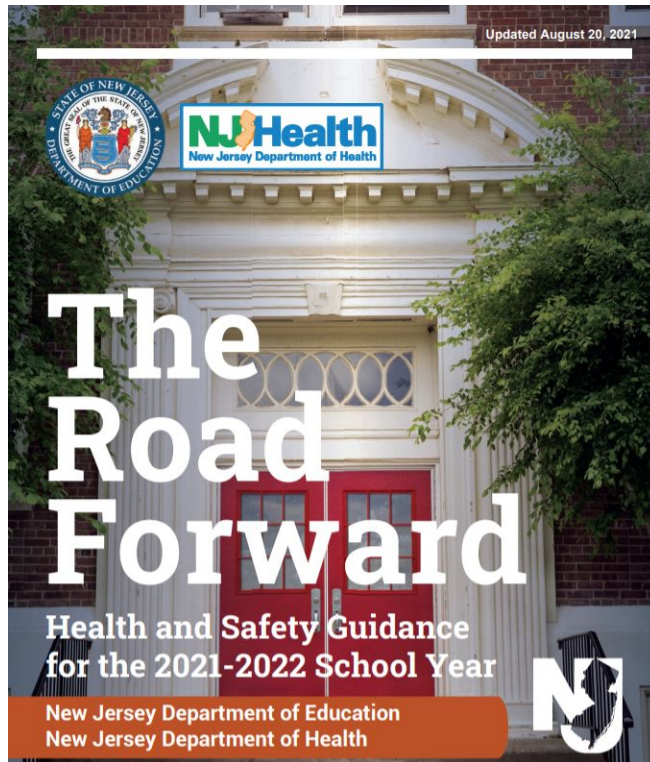
2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan



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"THE ROAD FORWARD" @ HPRHS

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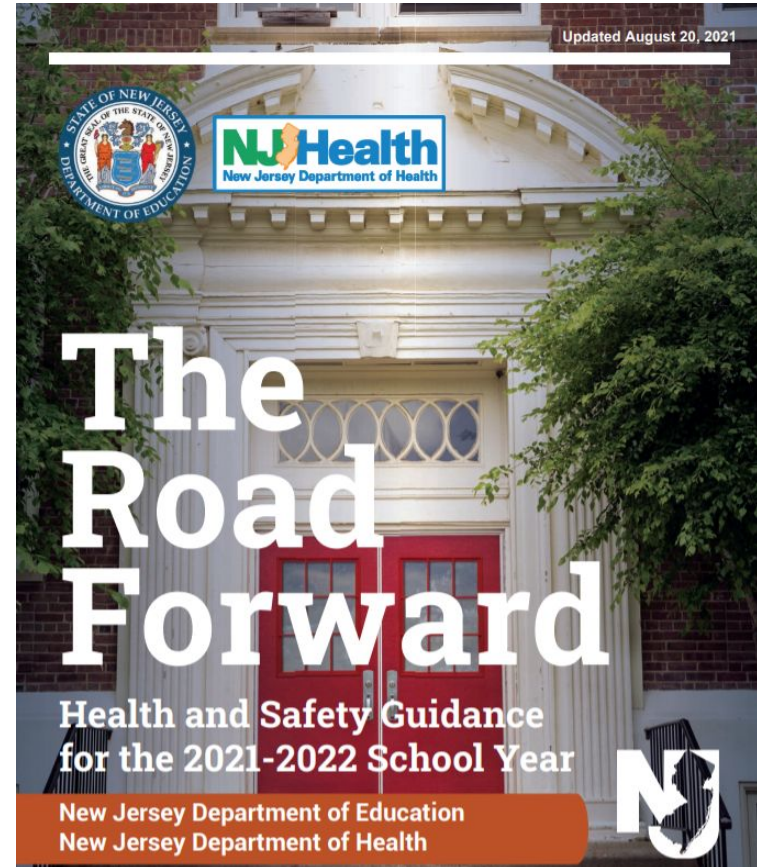
2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

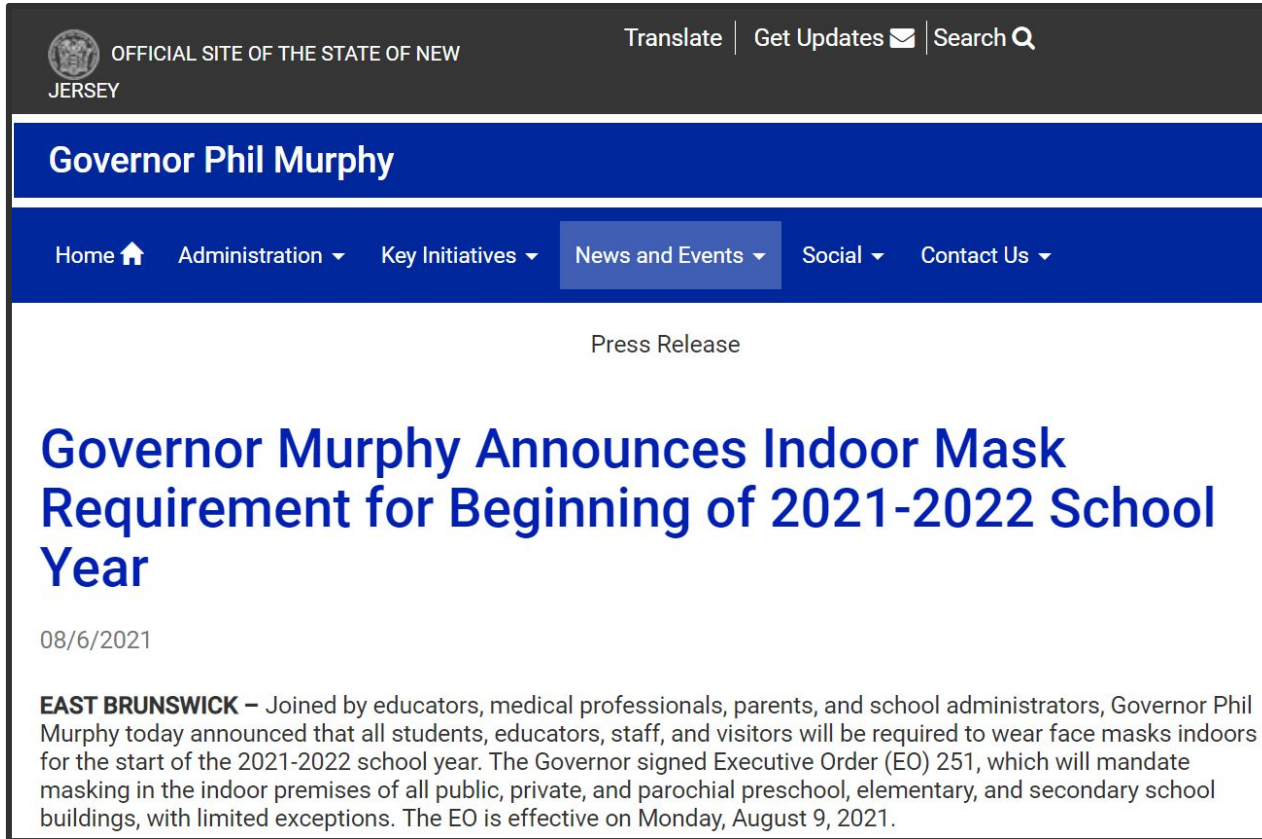
#1 *The Road Forward*

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On Friday, August 20, 2021 the NJ Department of Education and the NJ Department of Health, collectively, released updated guidelines for the reopening of school districts. [*The Road Forward*](#) requires schools to open for in-person instruction and with full day schedules for all students.





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Governor Phil Murphy

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Press Release

Governor Murphy Announces Indoor Mask Requirement for Beginning of 2021-2022 School Year

08/6/2021

EAST BRUNSWICK – Joined by educators, medical professionals, parents, and school administrators, Governor Phil Murphy today announced that all students, educators, staff, and visitors will be required to wear face masks indoors for the start of the 2021-2022 school year. The Governor signed Executive Order (EO) 251, which will mandate masking in the indoor premises of all public, private, and parochial preschool, elementary, and secondary school buildings, with limited exceptions. The EO is effective on Monday, August 9, 2021.

“MASK PROTOCOLS” @ HPRHS

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2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#2 Mask Protocols



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On August 6, 2021, Gov. Murphy issued Executive Order 251, mandating the use of masks for all students, staff and visitors in all New Jersey schools.

Masks were worn throughout the 2020-21 school year, and the members of the High Point school community cooperated with this requirement.

Masks will not be required to be worn outside.

Students may remove masks to eat and drink. Further guidance regarding additional exceptions to the indoor mask requirement will be provided as needed.

7:30 AM	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Length of block	drop 4,8	drop 1,5	All Periods	drop 2,6	drop 3,7
7:35-8:32	1	2	1 (7:35-8:17)	3	4
8:36-9:33	2	3	2 (8:21-9:03)	4	1
9:37-10:34	3	4	3 (9:07-9:49)	1	2
10:34-11:28	Unit Lunch	Unit Lunch	Unit Lunch	Unit Lunch	Unit Lunch
11:28-12:25	5	6	5 (11:28-12:09)	7	8
12:29-1:26	6	7	6 (12:13-12:55)	8	5
1:30-2:27	7	8	7 (12:59-1:41)	5	6
			8 (1:45-2:27)		

DAILY BELL SCHEDULE

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2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#3 Daily Bell Schedule



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High Point will resume the use of its rotating, drop-block schedule for the 2021-22 school year.

We will implement one adjustment to the drop-block schedule - an ["All Periods Meet" schedule](#) on Wednesdays.

The "All Period Meet" schedule for Wednesday was successfully used last year to increase instructional continuity.

2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#3 Daily Bell Schedule



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High Point Regional High School has no plans to switch from full, in-person instruction, to the use of a remote learning schedule.

However, as required by [statute](#), High Point is fully prepared to pivot and implement a remote learning schedule should circumstances require such an adjustment.

In the event that school were to be conducted remotely, we would use the “fully remote schedule” we utilized on several occasions during the 2021-22 school year.

Both the “fully remote schedule” and the regular bell schedule provide for daily instruction in excess of the required four hours.

2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#3 Daily Bell Schedule



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Remote schedule to be utilized, if circumstances require...

Full-Time Remote Schedule			MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			ALL STUDENTS ALL REMOTE	ALL STUDENTS ALL REMOTE	ALL STUDENTS ALL REMOTE	ALL STUDENTS ALL REMOTE	ALL STUDENTS ALL REMOTE
Start	End	Min.					
7:35	8:25	50	Office Hours	Office Hours	Office Hours	Office Hours	Office Hours
8:30	9:20	50	1	2	(1) 8:30-9:00	3	4
9:30	10:20	50	2	3	(2) 9:05-9:35	4	1
10:30	11:20	50	3	4	(3) 9:40-10:10	1	2
11:30	12:20	50	5	6	(4) 10:15-10:45	7	8
12:20	1:00	40	LUNCH	LUNCH	TRANSITION	LUNCH	LUNCH
1:00	1:30	30	6 - Academic Support	7 - Academic Support	(5) 11:30-12:00	8 - Academic Support	5 - Academic Support
1:40	2:10	30	7 - Academic Support	8 - Academic Support	(6) 12:05-12:35	5 - Academic Support	6 - Academic Support
					(7) 12:40-1:10		
					(8) 1:15-1:45		



TRANSPORTATION

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2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#4 Transportation

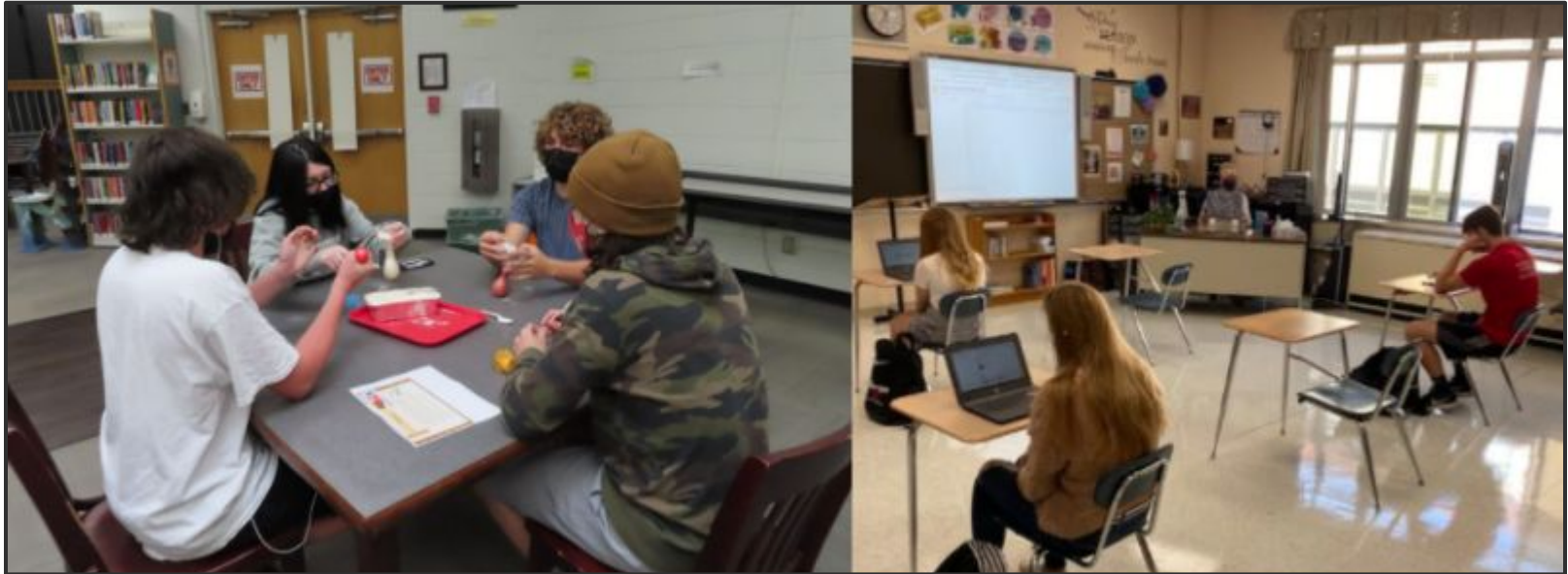


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High Point's Transportation Department has distributed bus passes to all parents. Regular transportation services, with busses operating at full capacity, will begin on Thursday, September 2 for Freshman Orientation, and on Friday, September 3 for all students.

Staff and students will be required to wear masks at all times while on a school bus.

Students and staff will be prohibited from eating or drinking while on the bus.



INSTRUCTION

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2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#5 Instruction



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Our instructional focus will return to in-person, student engagement, and we look forward to robust and meaningful classroom experiences for all students.

Group activities, while not prohibited, will be structured and closely monitored.

Students who are **required to quarantine** will join the class through Google Meet each period. Teachers will direct students how to proceed. This virtual interaction, coupled with the clear and consistent use of Google Classroom, will enable students to effectively continue their education while quarantining.

High Point will once again survey all students to assess home internet access. All students will be provided with a district issued Chromebook, and students facing connectivity issues at home will be eligible to use a district issued, WiFi embedded device.



ASSESSMENTS

2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#6 Assessments



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During the second and third weeks of school (9/13-9/24), students will take the *NJ Start Strong* Assessments. These brief (45 minutes) assessments will provide immediate feedback and will help us to determine the degree to which students receive academic support.

Students will participate in midterm exams and final exams during the 2021-22 school year.

Additional Assessment information can be found on our [2021-22 Assessment Schedule](#).



ATHLETICS & EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

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2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#7 Athletics & Extra-Curricular Activities

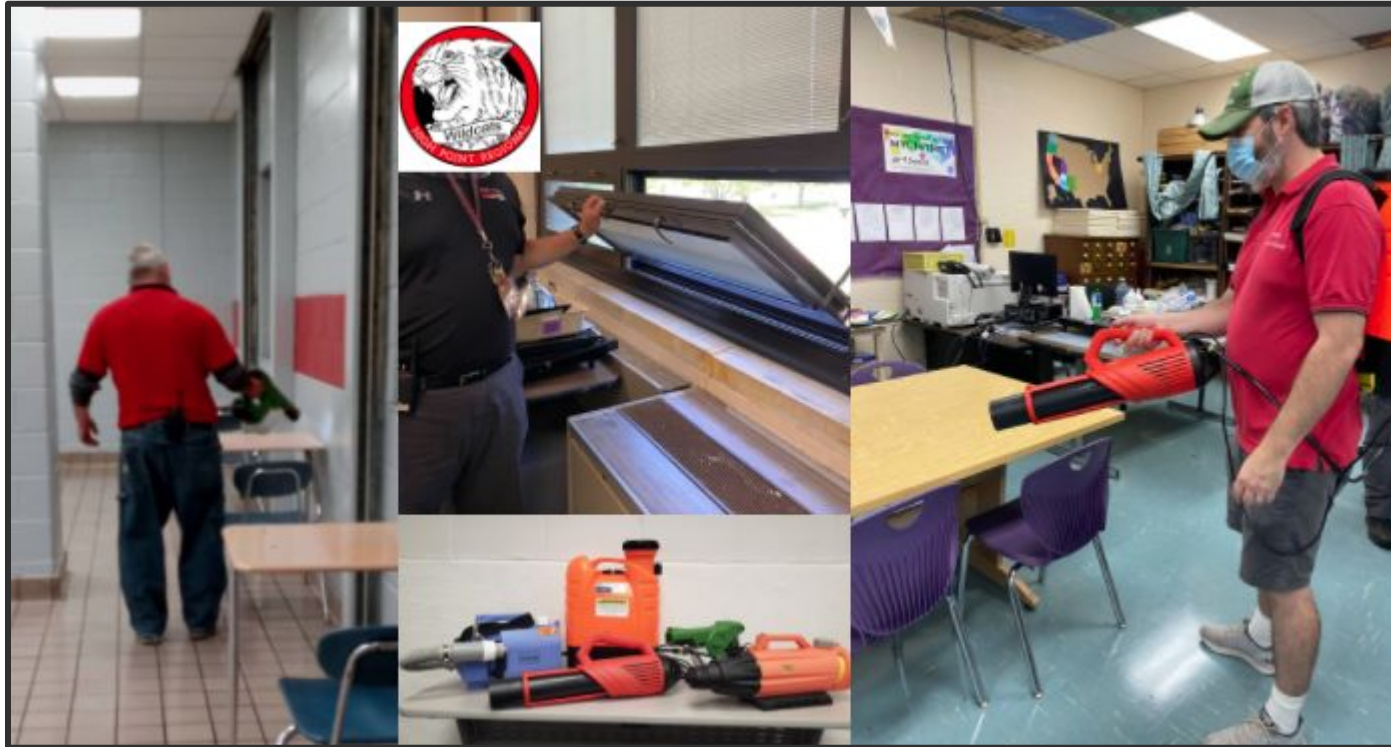


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Fall sports and related extracurricular activities are already underway!

We expect to provide students with a full menu of athletic and extracurricular options during the 2021-22 school year.

Specific health and safety protocols for various activities will be communicated by our Athletic Director, Mr. Chris Dexter, and through coaches and advisors.



CLEANING, DISINFECTING AND AIRFLOW

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2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#8 Cleaning, Disinfecting and Airflow



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High Point's maintenance staff will continue to clean and disinfect all indoor spaces utilized each day.

Hand sanitizer stations will continue to be placed throughout the building and disinfecting wipes will be used in classrooms and in areas used for eating.

[Bathroom access](#) will rotate in order to facilitate cleaning throughout the day, and the number of students permitted to use bathrooms at one time will be limited.

Daily cleaning protocols will be consistent with those employed during the 2020-21 school year.



HAND HYGIENE AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

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2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#9 Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette






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All students will be provided with access to hand sanitizer as they enter the building each day, as well as when they enter and exit each classroom.

Students and staff will be reminded to use hand sanitizer and to wash their hands as appropriate throughout the day.

Staff and students will receive guidance on how to effectively wear masks, as well as how to handle other matters related to respiratory etiquette.

New Jersey Department of Health
Surveillance Criteria and Testing for Novel Coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV)

Protocol for Healthcare Providers and Local Health Departments
 February 28, 2020

Key steps in case screening for Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)

1. Confirm that the report meets current SURVEILLANCE CRITERIA
2. Ensure implementation of CONTROL MEASURES
3. Ensure COLLECTION OF SPECIMENS for diagnostic testing
4. Ensure NOTIFICATION procedures are followed
5. Ensure completion of the COVID-19 PERSON UNDER INVESTIGATION FORM

SURVEILLANCE CRITERIA
 (See “Notifications” on page 4 for details on how to report to public health authorities)

To rapidly detect COVID-19, NJDOH requests health care providers to report patients meeting one of the following criteria. Only individuals meeting the criteria below will be considered for testing at a public health laboratory.

Clinical Features	&	Epidemiologic Risk
Fever ¹ or signs/symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath)	AND	Any person, including health care workers ² , who has had close contact ³ with a laboratory-confirmed ⁴ COVID-19 patient within 14 days of symptom onset
Fever ¹ and signs/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) requiring hospitalization	AND	A history of travel from affected geographic areas ⁵ within 14 days of symptom onset
Fever ¹ with severe acute lower respiratory illness (e.g., pneumonia, ARDS) requiring hospitalization ² and without alternative explanatory diagnosis (e.g., influenza) ⁶	AND	No source of exposure has been identified

The criteria are intended to serve as guidance for evaluation. Patients should be evaluated and discussed with local and state public health on a case-by-case basis if their clinical presentation or exposure history is equivocal (e.g., uncertain travel or exposure).

SCREENING; RESPONDING TO SYMPTOMATIC INDIVIDUALS

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2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#10 Screening; responding to Symptomatic Individuals

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Last year all staff and students (parents submitted on behalf of students) completed a health questionnaire prior to entering the building. This form will not be required for the 2021-22 school year.

For the 2021-22 school year, parents and staff are being instructed to monitor health and to refrain from attending school if displaying [COVID-19 related symptoms](#). Parents and staff should communicate with the school if any health related concerns arise.



SOCIAL DISTANCING & COHORT PROTOCOLS

2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#11 SOCIAL DISTANCING & COHORT PROTOCOLS



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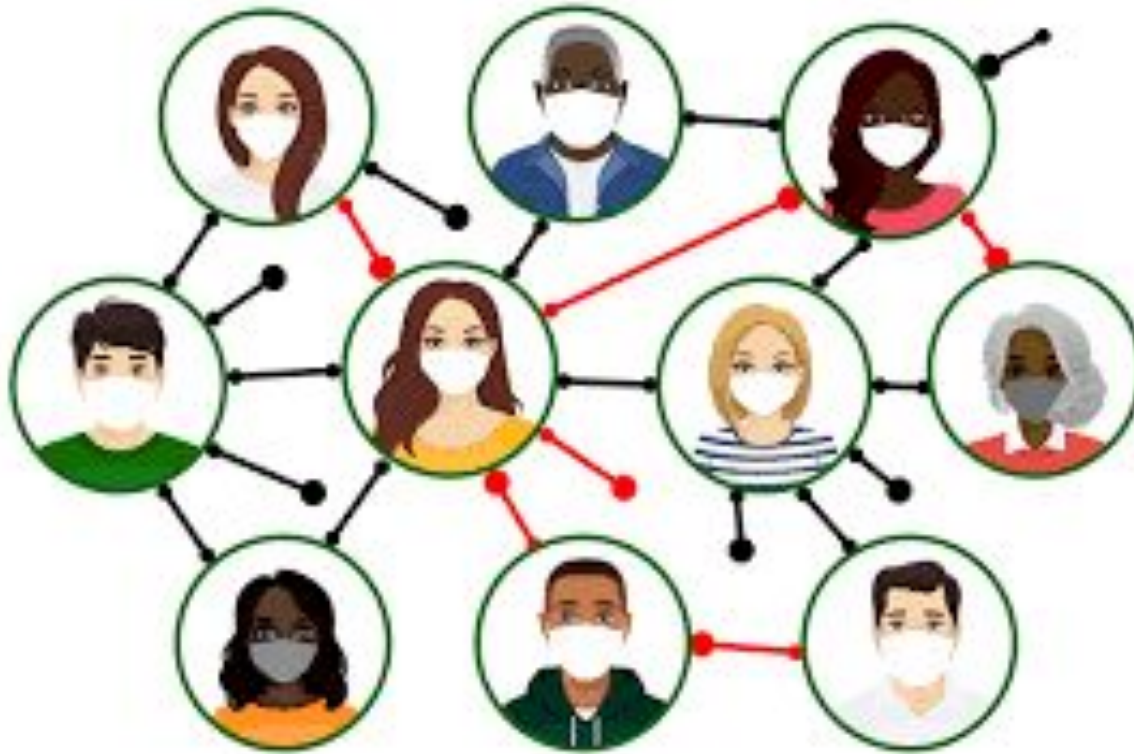
High Point will be opening at full capacity for all students on Friday, September 3, 2021. As such, it is not feasible to maintain six feet of distance between students.

When practical, students will be seated in classrooms at a distance of three or more feet from one another.

In many instances the distance between students will be greater than three feet. In many instances, especially in hallways and other common areas, students will be closer than three feet.

Should High Point be directed to employ more stringent social distancing requirements, the possibility exists that we could return to using student cohort groupings in an effort to maximize spacing.

A [modified cohort schedule](#) will be utilized should we need to return to the cohort system (A Cohort; B Cohort) utilized during the 2020-21 school year.



CONTACT TRACING & EXCLUSION CRITERIA

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2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#12 Contact Tracing & Exclusion Criteria

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Seating charts will be used in classrooms and on busses in order to facilitate contact tracing in the event that a member of our school community tests positive for COVID-19.

[The NJ Department of Health \(NJDOH\)](#) defines “close contact” as “...anyone who spent 15 minutes or more within a 24-hour period and was within 6 feet of a person infected with COVID-19 while they were infectious (2 days before onset of symptoms to 10 days after).”

Exception: On August 20, 2021, the NJDOH stipulated that students who are within three to six feet of one another for 15 minutes, but who are properly wearing masks for this entire period of time, do not need to be considered close contacts.



2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#12 Contact Tracing & Exclusion Criteria

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- Exposed close contacts who are fully vaccinated, or who tested positive (PCR test) for COVID-19 within the past 90 days, and who are not experiencing COVID-19 symptoms - do not need to quarantine.
- Exposed close contacts who are not fully vaccinated, or who have not tested positive (PCR test) for COVID-19 within the past 90 days, are required to quarantine for 10-14 days from the day in which close contact occurred.
- All persons who have been identified as a close contact should continue to monitor their health and should notify their physician and the school, should symptoms develop.



2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#12 Contact Tracing & Exclusion Criteria

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- * <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/statistics/covid/> (Quarantine 10 days if region is moderate/yellow or low/green; Quarantine 14 days if region is high/orange or very high/red).
- * When our region is moderate/yellow or low/green, close contacts who are quarantining can reduce the length of quarantine with a negative test result collected at 5-7 days, as per [NJDOH guidance](#).
- * High Point also made masks available to students, staff and guests as needed to ensure thorough maske compliance. Throughout the first few months of the 2021-22 school year the administration consulted with students, staff and parents on how to effectively maintain mask protocols.
- * In an effort to increase the effectiveness of our contact tracing strategies, High Point trained all staff members in how to utilize a common seating chart template. These templates identify seating arrangements which place students in “close contact” and direct staff to annotate the charts to document when class activities may have led to “close contact.”



STUDENT AND STAFF TRAVEL

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2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#13 Student and Staff Travel



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As of May 17, 2021, New Jersey's travel advisory is no longer in effect.

[*Additional NJ Travel Guidance](#)



VACCINATIONS & SCREENINGS

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2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#14 Vaccinations

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The NJ Department of Education and the NJ Department of Health strongly recommend that all New Jersey residents receive to COVID-19 vaccine if they are eligible.

On August 23, 2021 Gov. Murphy announced that starting on October 18, 2021 all school (K-12) personnel will be required to be fully vaccinated, or to be tested at least once a week for COVID-19.

High Point has continued to inform its school community that the NJDOH, NJDOE and CDC support vaccinations as a method to control the spread of COVID-19.

In October, 2021 High Point directed all staff to provide the district with proof of vaccination, or to begin providing the district with weekly COVID-19 test results. To facilitate this practice, High Point has provided staff with onsite access to weekly COVID-19 tests (PCR).



MEALS

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2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#15 Meals



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High Point is very pleased to announce that we are able to continue providing lunch and breakfast to all students, regardless of economic status, each day at **no direct cost to students**.

This program is being funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and will continue as long as the USDA provides funding. We will communicate any changes to this program as we are notified by the USDA.

In the event that we utilize a fully remote schedule, High Point will continue to distribute lunch and breakfast to all students. Families will be notified of distribution locations and times through the district's "all call" system and through frequent updates on the school's website.

2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#15 Meals



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Maschio's will be serving an increased variety of prepared meals, and the snack bar will be available for some ala carte food purchases.

All students and staff are encouraged to have a Maschio's account so they are able to purchase food.



Summer Academy

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2021-22 Safe Return to School Plan

#16 Summer Academy



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Coursework Remediation

Students who narrowly failed a required, core academic course was offered the chance to earn full credit for this course by attending two summer sessions. Students had to attend the program for eight (8) days in order to receive full course credit.

Social and Emotional Wellness:

During each day of Academic Remediation, there was a 40 minute block of time to take a break and focus on student growth, health and wellness. This group activity focused on skills such as time management, study skills, stress management, etc. These required activities provided a break between academic sessions and provided students with time to work on their overall development.



COVID-19 Resources

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[New Jersey Department of Health](#)

[New Jersey Department of Education](#)

[CDC COVID19](#)

[World Health Organization](#)

[Wantage Township Health Department/Board of Health](#)

[Sussex County Health Department](#)

Communication & Responsiveness



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High Point Social Media:



@HPRwildcats



facebook.com/HPRHS



hprhs



Wildcat Media Channel