

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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December 30, 2021

****IMPORTANT UPDATED CDC GUIDELINES & TEST TO STAY PROTOCOLS****

Dear High Point Community:

Effective Monday, December 27, 2021, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) has updated and shortened recommended isolation and quarantine periods. The following CDC statement provides the rationale for this updated guidance:

Given what we currently know about COVID-19 and the Omicron variant, CDC is shortening the recommended time for isolation from 10 days for people with COVID-19 to 5 days, if asymptomatic, followed by 5 days of wearing a mask when around others. The change is motivated by science demonstrating that the majority of SARS-CoV-2 transmission occurs early in the course of illness, generally in the 1-2 days prior to onset of symptoms and the 2-3 days after.

Therefore, High Point shall follow these guidelines, as well as employ Test-To-Stay protocols, as formerly communicated in my letter to the community dated [December 23, 2021](#). We believe that by developing and adhering to aligned internal procedures for student and staff safety, we will also ensure student wellbeing by increasing the likelihood that our students are on-site learning and experiencing their education among their peers and teachers. Please know that there are no employable measures to ensure the complete elimination of transmission.

Students testing positive, who are asymptomatic, shall be excluded for five (5) days; students testing positive and symptomatic shall be excluded for a minimum of five (5) days, or until symptoms have subsided for 24 hours; students who are vaccinated, and asymptomatic shall not be excluded; students who are deemed a close-contact, and who are asymptomatic, and not fully vaccinated, shall follow Test-To-Stay protocols involving serial, on-site testing through day five (5) – negative tests shall allow student to remain active in school activities; any positive test, during the Test-To-Stay protocols shall place student in positive protocol, as listed above. If any parent prefers their student forgo Test-To-Stay, the exclusion of their child shall be a minimum of five (5) days. If antigen tests which have been ordered, do not arrive as anticipated on January 4, we will still employ Test-To-Stay protocols; however, such tests will either be conducted on-site with a student provided kit, or from an off-site PCR test result.

The High Point Board of Education and the NJDOH have requested our community be reminded that the NJDOH, NJDOE, HPBOE and [CDC](#) support vaccinations as a method to control the spread of COVID-19.

Sincerely,



Scott D. Ripley, Ed.D.
Superintendent