



COVID Guidance for 2022-23 School Year Posted to Health Services Page of GJSD Website

1 message

Greater Johnstown School District via ParentSquare <donotreply@parentsquare.com>
To:

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Greater Johnstown School District

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The District has posted COVID guidance for the 2022-23 school year on the [Health Services](#) page of GJSD website. Please refer to the Health Services page for any questions you may have regarding COVID. Don't hesitate to contact your child's building principal if you have further questions that might not be covered in this latest guidance. We've cut and pasted the guidance here:

COVID Guidance for 2022-23 School Year

Recently, Governor Kathy Hochul and State Health Commissioner Mary Bassett released [updated state guidance](#) for addressing the COVID-19 and Monkeypox viruses in schools. These plans align with recent release of updated [CDC Guidance](#).

As the governor stated, this year will be starting very differently than the previous two years. Masks, quarantines, and social distancing requirements will not be part of our return to school plans.

Still, there are ongoing risks associated with these viruses that require care and attention and our district will adhere to mitigation strategies that have been proven to help keep our students and staff healthy. Here is a summary of the update guidance and practices that we will use going forward:

- Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 should still isolate for 5 days at home following the onset of symptoms. Those whose symptoms improve may resume attending school after 5 days if they are fever-free without fever reducing medicine for 24 hours and they wear a

mask through day 10. Please see the [protocols here](#) for further guidance should you test positive for COVID-19.

- Universal mask wearing is not required. Students and staff who choose to wear masks may do so, based on their comfort level and risk factors.
- Those exposed to COVID-19 will no longer be required to quarantine or “test to stay” in school, though they should still be watchful for symptoms and stay home if they are feeling unwell.
- Those who have tested positive are still encouraged to report to [Fulton County Health Department](#) so that they can keep track of trends in our area.
- GJSD will continue to provide free masks and at-home antigen tests as needed through our health offices.
- GJSD will no longer conduct screening testing for unvaccinated staff members or those participating in extracurricular activities, nor are we required to report positivity rates.
- GJSD is no longer required to conduct contact tracing, therefore seating on the buses, during lunch, events and classroom activities will return to normal.
- GJSD will continue to encourage students to practice good hand washing etiquette in its schools, and when feeling unwell, to stay home and let our school health offices know.
- As of now, there are no Monkeypox-related requirements for school operations, as schools are considered to be low-risk.

Our primary concern remains the safety and well-being of our students and staff. We will continue to maintain close contact with the Fulton County Health Department, the NYS Department of Health, and the NYS Department of Education and follow their recommendations regarding public health. Thank you for your efforts in helping to ensure that our schools remain healthy!

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