



Our Response to COVID-19

The safety and wellbeing of our Students, Employees and Staff is extremely important to us. Our collective health is our priority. As we continue to monitor the COVID-19 outbreak, please keep informed and visit our website regularly.

Please see below Questions and Answers.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: ARE THERE ANY SUSPECTED CASES OF COVID-19 IN OUR DISTRICT?

A: If there becomes a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case in our District, we will work closely with public health officials to address the situation and the persons affected will be notified as pursuant to the COVID-19 protocols. Our Nursing Supervisor Ms. Myrna Dyson will also be notified at mdyson@plainfield.k12.nj.us.

Q: WHAT HAPPENS IF I AM SICK?

A. If you are feeling sick because of COVID-19 or other, please stay home. See your doctor. Get tested and only come to school when you are cleared by your doctor.



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B. If you are feeling any of the following:

- Fever or chills; Temperature 100 degrees or higher;
- Cough;
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing;
- Fatigue;
- Muscle or body aches;
- Headache;
- New loss of taste or smell;
- Sore throat;
- Congestion or runny nose;
- Nausea or vomiting;
- Diarrhea.

C. Symptoms Based Exclusion: Parents should not send students to school when sick.

D. At least two of the following symptoms: fever (measure or subjective), chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion or runny nose; OR



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- E. • At least one of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new olfactory disorder, new taste disorder
- F. Please have your child see his/her doctor for any of these symptoms. A doctor's note will be required if your child is sent home with any of these symptoms.
- G. Please update your contact list in the event your child needs to be sent home due to an illness.

Q: WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD GETS SICK AT SCHOOL?

A: If your child become sick at school, they will be isolated in an area away from their classmates and you will be notified immediately so you can pick up your child. You will be required to bring a note from the doctor saying your child is ok to return to school.

Q: WHAT HAPPENS IF WE VISITED FLORIDA OR ANY OF THE STATES ON THE NJ TRAVEL ADVISORY?

A: If you have visited any of the states on the travel advisory by NJ, you must quarantine for 14 days.



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Q: WHICH STATES ARE ON THE TRAVEL ADVISORY LIST? ARE THERE TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS TO OR FROM NEW JERSEY? *(Source NJ.gov)*

Last Updated: 09/17/2020

To save lives and prevent the spread of COVID-19, the State of New Jersey has issued an incoming travel advisory that all individuals entering New Jersey from states with a significant spread of COVID-19 should quarantine for 14-days after leaving that state.

Under the 14-day quarantine travel advisory announced by the Governors of New Jersey, New York and Connecticut, individuals traveling to or returning to New Jersey from states with increasing rates of COVID-19 are advised to self-quarantine for 14 days. This includes travel by train, bus, car, plane and any other method of transportation.

The 14-day quarantine travel advisory applies to travel from certain "impacted states" identified as those that 1) have an average daily number of new cases higher than 10 per 100,000 residents over a seven-day period or 2) have a 10% or higher positivity rate over a seven-day period. The advisory applies to travel from states that meet either of these levels.

As of Tuesday, September 15, there are currently 30 states and U.S. jurisdictions that meet the criteria stated above: *(List of States)*



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Alabama (added 6/24/20)

Alaska (re-added 9/1/20)

Arkansas (added 6/24/20)

Delaware (re-added 9/8/20)

Florida (added 6/24/20)

Georgia (added 6/30/20)

Guam (added 8/25/20)

Idaho (added 6/30/20)

Illinois (added 7/28/20)

Indiana (added 7/21/20)

Iowa (added 6/30/20)

Kansas (added 7/7/20)

Kentucky (added 7/28/20)

Louisiana (added 6/30/20)

Mississippi (added 6/30/20)



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Missouri (added 7/21/20)

Montana (re-added 9/1/20)

Nebraska (added 7/21/20)

North Carolina (added 6/24/20)

North Dakota (added 7/21/20)

Oklahoma (added 7/7/20)

Puerto Rico (re-added 9/15/20)

South Carolina (added 6/24/20)

South Dakota (added 8/11/20)

Tennessee (added 6/30/20)

Texas (added 6/24/20)

Utah (added 6/24/20)

Virginia (added 7/21/20)

West Virginia (added 9/8/20)

Wisconsin (added 7/14/20)



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Q: ARE OUR SCHOOLS CLOSED? CAN I VISIT MY SCHOOL?

A: All our schools are closed and students are learning remotely from home. At this time, only essential personnel are to report to work. Should you have an in-person appointment, you will be allowed entrance to the building following safety protocols that include taking your temperature and making sure you have a face covering or mask.

Governor Murphy has ordered a statewide restriction for all non-essential gatherings of individuals of more than 50-100 to be temporarily banned. In the event that a visitor needs to come to any of our schools, they will still need to be screened and must answer the following questions:

- Have you or those you live with had close contact with a COVID-19 patient in the 14 days prior to your visit?
- Have you or those you live with had close contact with a person under investigation for COVID-19 in the 14 days prior to your visit?
- Have you had a fever and respiratory symptoms in the 14 days prior to the visit?
- Have you experienced flu or cold-like symptoms in the 24 hours prior to your visit?
- If you answer in the affirmative to any of these questions, you will not be allowed to visit any of our schools.



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Q: WHAT IS THE REVISED ACADEMIC CALENDAR FOR THIS YEAR?

A: The updated 2020-2021 School Calendar has been uploaded to the website.

Q: WHAT ABOUT THE ACT, SAT, AND AP AND THE ANNUAL STANDARDIZED TESTING?

The ____ (Nov. /April) ACT date and May SAT dates are scheduled for _____. The College Board announced on _____ that AP Exams will be administered online. For information, visit the College Board website. The College Counseling Office will be communicating with the Classes of 2020 and 2021 after the spring recess.

Q: WHEN WILL WE GO BACK TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION?

Unless otherwise directed by the Governor of New Jersey Phil Murphy and the New Jersey State Department of Education, for now our plan is to resume in-person, HYBRID, instruction beginning November 2, 2020. Parents will have options and they will be asked to submit a survey letting the Plainfield Public School District know of their decision. The options include:

- a. Remote learning until June
- b. Hybrid Instruction for the 2nd Semester – January to April
- c. Hybrid Instruction for the 3rd Semester – April to June 2021



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Q: WHAT DOES HYBRID MEAN?

A: Hybrid means the students will attend school part of the day at home and the other part of the week to in-person school.

Q: WHAT ARE THE TRANSITION SCHEDULES FOR IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION?

- Eligibility for Transition - Each student participating in either full time remote learning or in-person services must spend one full marking period in that learning modality before being eligible to transition to another modality.
- The following are the dates for each marking period for the 2020-21 school year:
 1. MP1: Sept. 8, 20 - Nov. 2, 20
 2. MP2: Nov 9, 20 - Jan 29, 21
 3. MP3: Feb 1, 20 - April 1, 21
 4. MP4: Apr 12, 21 - Jun 14, 21
- Schools will monitor the membership in both the remote and in-person student cohorts and make appropriate accommodations for documented extenuating circumstances. See Appendix J
- Procedures



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- Complete and submit the district Transition Request Form (TRF) to request either a transition from remote to in-person learning OR from in-person to remote learning no later than week 5 of the current marking period. The following are the deadlines for submission for the 2020-21 school year deadlines:
 1. For MP2: October 7, 2020
 2. For MP3: December 15, 2020
 3. For MP4: March 3, 2021
- Within 10 school days the district/school will make a determination and inform parents/guardians as to whether or not their transition request has been approved. If not approved, the district will provide an explanation as to why the request was denied. Point of contact for questions/concerns will be the school principal or designee. Documentation required includes the official district Transition Request Form H (TRF). Transition Request Form (TRF) See Appendix J
- Parents who request transition from in-person or hybrid delivery to full time remote delivery must complete the District's application for remote learning.
- Schools will then process the application accordingly.
- Should a family determine that they would like to return to the hybrid delivery schedule, the student will need to complete the current marking period before transitioning.
- Medical circumstances will be addressed according to District protocol
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Q: HOW DO I CONTACT SCHOOL PERSONNEL WHEN THE SCHOOL IS CLOSED?

School administrators and staff are working at most of our schools and can be reached via email or their office phones. Teachers are also be working and some may be working remotely, however they are available to speak to students and parents. Teachers and all employees monitor their phone messages and emails during regular business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please see the school's directory on the website for contact information.

Q: WILL THE STUDENTS HAVE VACATION EVEN IF THEY ARE STUDYING REMOTELY?

Yes, students will have school breaks for Thanksgiving, the Winter Recess, Spring Recess, Memorial Day and all the holidays included in the 2020-2021 School Year Calendar. Please see the calendar on the district website at www.plainfieldk12nj.org

Q: I HAVE A STUDENT IN THE 12TH GRADE, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE CLASS OF 2020? WHEN WILL THEY GET THEIR SCHOOL/GRADUATE PORTRAITS TAKEN?

A: The students should reach out to their schools. The students of the Class of 2021 will be informed by their Class Advisor and Yearbook Director to take their photos and select their photo packages via the email.....at _____.



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Q: WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD NEEDS MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT?

A: As students return to school, they may experience anxiety, grief, or other negative feelings due to the trauma of the COVID-19 pandemic. To support our students, the school support staff will assess the need of our students and provide a three-tiered approach of support:

Tier 1: Classroom presentations (provided in person or virtually)

Tier 2: Targeted small group skill-building (Virtually)

Tier 3: Individual and intensive, case management, and referral (Virtually)

Additionally, child resiliency strategies will be emphasized in school culture and climate

Activities (for more information please check the Student Handbook on the District Website at

http://www.plainfieldnj12.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_520401/File/20-

[21%20Banner%20Files/TEAMPPSD%20Road%20Back%20July%2027%202020%20\(002\)in%20SPANISH%20final.pdf](http://www.plainfieldnj12.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_520401/File/20-21%20Banner%20Files/TEAMPPSD%20Road%20Back%20July%2027%202020%20(002)in%20SPANISH%20final.pdf)

Q: HOW WILL THE DISTRICT ASSURE CLEANLINESS OF ALL AREAS?

Facilities Cleaning Practices

(1) All PPSD employees will adhere to existing required facilities cleaning practices and procedures, and any new specific requirements of the local health department as they arise.



(2) The Policy establishes cleaning/disinfecting schedules, targeted areas to be cleaned, and methods

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and materials to be used including:

- (a) A schedule for increased routine cleaning and disinfection.
- (b) Routinely cleaning and disinfecting surfaces and objects that are frequently touched. This may include cleaning objects/surfaces not ordinarily cleaned daily (e.g. doorknobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops).
- (c) Use of all cleaning products according to the directions on the label. For disinfection, most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective. A list of products that are EPA approved for use against the virus that causes COVID-19 is available on the EPA's website.
- (d) Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method, and contact time, etc.). Examples of frequently touched areas in schools are: (i) Classroom desks and chairs; (ii) Lunchroom tables and chairs; (iii) Door handles and push plates; (iv) Handrails; (v) Kitchens and bathrooms; (vi) Light switches; (vii) Handles on equipment (e.g. athletic equipment); (viii) Buttons on vending machines and elevators; (ix) Shared telephones; (x) Shared desktops; (xi) Shared computer keyboards and peripheral devices; (xii) Drinking fountains will be closed and students and staff are encouraged to bring their own water bottle. (xiii) School bus seats and windows.
- (e) Sanitize bathrooms hourly, or between use as much as possible, using protocols outlined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Q: WHAT ABOUT MEALS? HOW DO I GET A PANDEMIC EBT CARD?

A: Meals are being distributed at all the schools free to all students. The EBT Cards were sent to families independently from the School District. These cards were distributed by the State of New Jersey to families who were previously registered for free or reduced meals.

Q: WHAT ABOUT TESTING? WILL THE DISTRICT PROVIDE ACCESS TO TESTING FOR COVID-19 AND ANTIBODIES?



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Q: WHO SHOULD I CALL IF I HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

A: Should you have additional questions, please reach us via Let's Talk on the District Website at www.plainfieldnj12.org.

THANK YOU.