

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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January 2, 2022

****Return to School on 1.4.22 -- Temporary Adjustment to Revised COVID-19 Protocols****

Dear High Point Community:

Over the weekend, both the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the NJ Department of Health (DOH) released additional recommendations for schools related to COVID-19 protocols, which were contradictory to that which they communicated on December 17. While these newly adjusted guidelines are not mandates – they are strong recommendations; however, school districts continue to have the discretion to choose which recommendations they will employ. In fact, the dizzying speed with which new and contradictory guidelines have been released, along with the confusing, inconsistent nature of those guidelines, make it imperative that schools choose which guidance they will and will not incorporate.

Last week I communicated that High Point would be employing several new protocols upon our return to school on January 4. Due to the ever-shifting guidance from the agencies mentioned above, **those protocols** -- “Test-to-Stay,” reduced periods of isolation for those who test positive, and shorter quarantine periods, **will NOT be in place on January 4**, as formerly presented. Rather, High Point will continue to follow the same COVID-19 protocols which were in effect when we were last in school on December 23, 2021. Our short, and long-term plans, remain the same, however – keep our children in school and participating in athletics and extracurricular activities. We will review all protocols and recommendations, as well as our circumstances over the next few days, and we will communicate an updated plan on Friday, January 7, 2022. It is anticipated that we will employ Test-to-Stay protocols as early as Monday January 10, while also moving toward reduced exclusionary periods sooner, rather than later. Thank you for your patience and support.

We are continuing to monitor all COVID related circumstances and will provide updates, as appropriate. If you have questions, please contact Superintendent Dr. Scott Ripley [SRipley@hpregional.org], Principal Jon Tallamy [JTallamy@hpregional.org] or call the school at 973.875.3101: we will respond to all inquiries, as soon as we are able.

Sincerely,



Scott D. Ripley, Ed.D.
Superintendent