

Patchogue-Medford School District

Addendum to the District Reopening Plan



Updated April 2021

Patchogue-Medford School District

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Reopening of School Facilities for In-person Instruction

- All students in grades K-12 have returned to in-person instruction, 5-days per week or have the option to attend via remote instruction.
- The district used a phased in approach based on the educational needs of students.
- Individual barriers have been purchased and distributed for use in classrooms.
- We utilize classrooms and the cafeteria for lunch at the *elementary* and *middle* schools. Students at the *high school* will continue to utilize the grab & go model and lunch will be in classrooms only. When physical distancing cannot be maintained, students eating in classrooms are provided with barriers.
- When the weather permits, teachers have the option of taking classes outside to eat lunch in order to further encourage social distancing.



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Transportation

- We will continue to assign seats for students.
- With the full return of students, it may be necessary for students to sit with other students outside of their household on the school bus.
- We need the community's support in enforcing with their child(ren) the importance of staying in their assigned seat. This is very important for contact tracing and to limit the number of students being placed on a 10-day quarantine.
- We will continue to require students to wear masks on the bus.



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Safety Protocols and Procedures for In-person Instruction

- Students and staff will be encouraged to maintain physical distancing when possible.
- All students, staff, and visitors are required to wear proper face coverings, (or PPE based on job functions) as per DOH (Department of Health) guidance.
- Health Hygiene – the district will continue to reinforce students and staff in proper hand and respiratory hygiene and provide necessary supplies.
- Cleaning and Disinfecting – the district will continue cleaning and disinfecting procedures for the school district in accordance with CDC and local DOH recommendations.



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Monitoring of Health Conditions

- All students will continue to be given a daily temperature check at building arrival.
- Before leaving for school we ask parents/guardians to evaluate their child's health for COVID-19 symptoms. Should a child be experiencing COVID-19 symptoms parents/guardians are encouraged to contact a medical professional.
- A Daily Health Screening Questionnaire will continue to be conducted for all faculty and staff.



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Containment and Reporting of COVID-19

- Students and staff that test positive for COVID-19 are required to complete the [Staff and Student COVID-19 Absence Submission Form](#), located on our website.
- All positive COVID-19 cases are reported to the NYS DOH COVID-19 School Report Card Dashboard everyday that school is in session.
- Individuals who test positive are not permitted on-site until cleared by the DOH, and produce the Release of Isolation/Quarantine Orders.
- Administrators are responsible for conducting contact tracing in conjunction with the local DOH.
- Any exposed individuals required to quarantine will be notified and their information will be submitted to the DOH. Should an exposed student be present in school, they will be isolated until picked up by a parent/guardian.



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Exposed Students

- Should we need to quarantine students, families may receive a Connect Ed. message or an individual phone call from the school.
- For the safety of all students, parents will be required to promptly come to the school to pick-up their child.
- Only when absolutely necessary, the district will implement the [Full Remote Plan](#). The plan is posted on the district web-site under the *District Reopening* tab.



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COVID-19 Exposure Protocols

- Students and staff over the age of 16 are eligible to receive the COVID-19 Vaccination. Asymptomatic fully vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine if exposed to COVID-19, as per DOH guidance.
- Information on vaccine eligibility and appointments can be found on the [New York State Website](#).
- Asymptomatic individuals who previously have recovered from laboratory confirmed COVID-19, within the past 90 days do not need to quarantine if exposed to COVID-19.
- Currently, there are no travel restrictions for asymptomatic individuals for domestic and international travel, however, individuals should consult the [NYS Travel Advisory website](#) for the most up-to-date information.



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