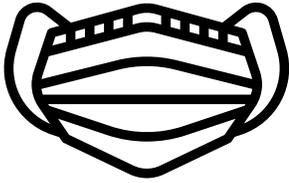


## BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY SUMMARY

**UPDATED AS OF OCTOBER 14, 2021**

Have a question? Please contact your child's principal.

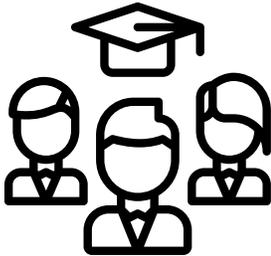
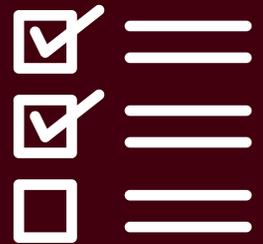


### FACE COVERINGS

- Face coverings are required on busses and within district buildings
- Gaiters, bandanas and clear shields are NOT acceptable
- Breaks will be provided during the school day

### DAILY HEALTH SCREENING

- Parents/guardians must screen their students at home prior to leaving for school and keep them home if they have a fever or any symptoms of illness.



### PK-12 PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- 6 feet of distancing in the lunchroom, band or chorus

#### GRADES 6-12

- Staggered bell schedules to lower density in hallways
- Students will have locker access

### RETURNING TO SCHOOL AFTER ILLNESS

#### AFTER COVID-19 LIKE ILLNESS,

#### REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS:

- A negative COVID-19 test must be provided OR
- A note from the student's medical care provider with an alternative diagnosis is provided OR
- 10 days since the onset of COVID-19 symptoms

#### AFTER COVID-19 DIAGNOSIS

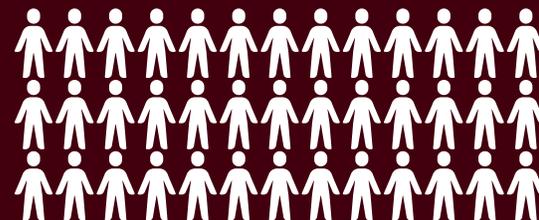
- At least 10 days after symptom onset or 10 days from their first positive test if asymptomatic AND
- Fever-free for at least 24 consecutive hours without the use of fever-reducing medications AND
- COVID-19 symptoms are improving

### CLOSE CONTACTS AND CONTACT TRACING

- Unvaccinated individuals closer than 3 feet for more than 15 cumulative minutes over a 24-hour period is considered a close contact
- Unvaccinated individuals closer than 6 feet for more than 15 cumulative minutes over a 24-hour period on a bus, lunch room and in chorus/band are considered a close contact

#### VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS

- Do not need to quarantine but should monitor for COVID-19 symptoms





# Orchard Park Central School District COVID-19 Safety Plan & Protocols



2021-2022

This document provides you, as students and parents, with the necessary practices and protocols you will need to support a safe school environment as we begin the 2021-22 school year. The District considered guidance and requirements from a number of federal, state, and local public health and safety agencies in the creation of this document, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), New York State Education Department (NYSED), New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and the [Erie County Department of Health](#) (ECDOH). Additional guidance will be provided and shared with you as it becomes available.

Orchard Park Central Schools is focused on making decisions that protect and support our students, staff, and community.

## Our Guiding Principles:

- ★ **The health and safety of our students and staff is our top priority.**
- ★ **Value in-person learning - five days a week.**
- ★ **A return of our comprehensive programming.**

The following protocols are necessary as we begin the 2021-22 school year:

- Face coverings
- Physical distancing
- Hygiene & cleaning
- Daily Health Screening

## Face Coverings

All students, staff, and visitors must wear face coverings while in District buildings. The District will provide appropriate face coverings for students if needed.

Guidelines for Face Coverings:

- Face coverings are required while on transportation and within district buildings.
- Face coverings are not required when outside but recommended when social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Breaks will be provided during the school day.
  - *Please note, per the ECDOH, that gaiters, bandanas, and clear face shields are not considered acceptable face coverings.*
- Face coverings must cover your mouth and nose.
- Face coverings/masks must be cleaned or replaced after each use, when they are damaged, and when they are soiled. Face coverings should be washed daily, if washable, or replaced daily if they are not reusable.

## Physical Distancing

- 6' of social distancing while in lunch, chorus or band (when playing an instrument that projects air)

## Hygiene & Cleaning

The CDC has released guidance including procedures and requirements surrounding hygiene and sanitation. Our cleaning practices adhere to hygiene and sanitation requirements from the CDC and ECDOH. The District will conduct regular cleaning and disinfecting daily, and more frequent cleaning and disinfection of highly-touched objects and surfaces, as well as high transit areas, such as restrooms and common areas. Cleaning logs will be maintained by the Director of Facilities in collaboration with building-level administration and the Head Custodian for each of our sites. In addition:

- Hand sanitizer will be available at each entrance, in each classroom, and throughout the building.
- Strong hand washing etiquette will be reinforced during the day.
- The district will clean and disinfect buildings, classrooms, and transportation vehicles on a daily basis.

## Daily Health Screening Procedures

Students, please stay home if you are feeling ill, have COVID-19 symptoms, or have been in contact with a positive individual and you are unvaccinated. Students, with the assistance of their parent/guardian, must self-assess and monitor symptoms.

As part of the health assessment, you must ask yourself the following questions:

- Have you experienced symptoms such as fever (temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher), chills, muscle or body aches, fatigue, loss of taste/smell, cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat, headache, nasal congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, or new loss of taste and/or smell over the past 10 days?
- Have you tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 10 days?
- Have you had contact with anyone confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19 in the past 10 days and you are not vaccinated.

If the District is informed that a student has tested positive for COVID-19, the District will notify the ECDOH, and subsequently, cooperate with any contact tracing efforts. These contact tracing efforts will include the ECDOH informing other individuals who had close contact with the individual who tested positive. The District will maintain the confidentiality of individual health information throughout this process. Please note: Contract tracing and quarantine requirements are regulated by the ECDOH and not the District.

## Return to School After a COVID-19 Positive Case

ECDOH requires that students or staff must meet all the following criteria in order to return to school following testing positive for COVID-19:

1. At least 10 days after COVID-19 symptom onset or 10 days from their first positive test if asymptomatic AND
2. Fever-free for at least 24 consecutive hours without the use of fever-reducing medications AND
3. COVID-19 symptoms are improving.

## **Close Contacts and Contact Tracing**

### **Fully Vaccinated Close Contacts:**

Per CDC guidelines, fully vaccinated individuals who are identified as close contacts are not subject to quarantine. However, these individuals should monitor for COVID-19 symptoms. Fully vaccinated persons who have a known exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 should get tested 3-5 days after exposure and should wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result. If they begin to experience COVID-19 symptoms, they must follow the “Returning to School Following Illness” protocol detailed above.

### **Unvaccinated Close Contacts**

Per CDC guidelines, unvaccinated students within 3 feet, or unvaccinated teachers/staff within 6 feet of the positive COVID-19 case for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period during a time the case was infectious, regardless if masks were worn, will be considered a close contact and quarantined for 10 days from the last day of exposure to the positive COVID-19 case. Persons who are not fully vaccinated should be tested immediately after being identified, and, if negative, tested again in 5-7 days after last exposure or immediately if COVID-19 symptoms develop during quarantine.

It is our hope and goal that by following these safety protocols, we will have a safe and exciting 2021-22 school year for all of our students! Thank you for your partnership and continued support.