

## LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction

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**LEA Name: North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District**

**School Year: 2024-2025**

**Date: June 27, 2023**

**Date Revised: July 31, 2024**

For the 2024-2025 school year, the North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District will continue as normal with a traditional school year with full in-person instruction for all students. The school day will be the normal 7:45am-2:25pm hours while following the rolling drop block schedule. All athletics, extra-curricular activities, cafeteria and transportation operations will run as normal.

### **MASKS:**

Masks remain optional both in school and while riding the bus for the 2024-2025 school year, though masks are recommended when someone tests positive for COVID-19 or has symptoms. Each student and staff member can make their own decision as to whether they want to wear a mask. We are asking everyone to respect each other's decision, whether they choose to wear a mask or not. In accordance with our district policy and Code of Conduct, bullying will not be tolerated.

### **PHYSICAL DISTANCING:**

There are no cohorts in effect for the 2024-2025 school year; all students are in school full-time. Physical distancing is not being enforced, but is recommended if someone feels ill.

### **HAND WASHING AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE:**

We will continue to reinforce proper hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds to all students and employees. Touchless hand sanitizers installed in classrooms in 2020-2021 will remain in place for the foreseeable future. Teachers will also be reminded that the sharing of equipment and supplies is discouraged unless items can be cleaned between uses.

### **CLEANING/DISINFECTION OF FACILITIES, AIRFLOW AND VENTILATION:**

Enhanced cleaning protocols established in the 2020-2021 school year have continued. The Protexus electrostatic sprayers will continue to be used throughout the buildings. Common touch points such as door handles, knobs, railings, water fountains, etc. will be disinfected. Custodial crews will continue to thoroughly clean and disinfect daily once students are dismissed.

In regards to airflow and ventilation, the HVAC system checks and monthly filter changes for proper air quality will continue. Classroom windows and doors will be opened when possible to increase airflow.

### **HEALTH SCREENING:**

Parents/caregivers are strongly encouraged to monitor their children for signs of illness every day. Students who are sick (see symptom list below) should not attend school. Same protocol applies to employees. Employees should monitor their symptoms and not report to work if they are not feeling well. If an employee tests positive for COVID-19, he/she needs to inform the school health office or immediate supervisor.

Parents should not send students to school when sick. For school settings, the New Jersey Department of Health recommends that students with the following symptoms be promptly isolated from others and excluded from school:

- 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**
- At least **one** of the following symptoms: new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new olfactory disorder, new taste disorder.

For students with chronic illness, only new symptoms, or symptoms worse than baseline should be used to fulfill symptom-based exclusion criteria.

### **ISOLATION, QUARANTINE AND CONTACT TRACING:**

Schools must report outbreaks or suspected outbreaks of all communicable diseases, including COVID-19 to their local health department. An outbreak of COVID-19 in a school setting is defined as three or more individuals (positive by RT-PCR or antigen) among students or staff with illness onsets within a 7-day period, who are epidemiologically linked, do not share a household, and were not identified as close contacts of each other in another setting during standard case investigation or contact tracing. Therefore, any confirmed cases of COVID-19 should be reported directly to the school health office (North Hunterdon, call 908-713-4171; Voorhees, call 908-638-2148). Contact tracing is no longer required by schools. If your child tests positive, please contact individuals who were in close contact with your child.

The district will follow the recommended CDC guidelines for isolation of positive cases or students with COVID-like symptoms as outlined on the CDC website here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/isolation.html>.

### **VACCINATION:**

CDC recommends that people remain [up to date](#) with their vaccines, which includes additional doses for individuals who are immunocompromised and booster doses at regular time points.

If your child has been vaccinated for COVID-19, please consider sending in a copy of the vaccination record to the health office so that they may add it to your child's immunization file. The vaccine is not a requirement, but it is a great way to keep your student's records updated and all in one place should you need a copy for college.

### **APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES WITH RESPECT TO THE HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICIES**

The IEP team will review physician's order and other formal and informal data to determine whether any additional accommodations are required with respect to the health and safety policies to support the safe return and/or continuity of services and in-person attendance of students with disabilities. When it is determined that additional accommodations and supports are needed, the student's IEP would be revised accordingly.

Teachers and staff will continue providing increased support for maintaining appropriate hygiene in regards to hand washing, sanitizing, and maintaining social distancing.