

River Dell Regional School District

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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

PATRICK J. FLETCHER
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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December 13, 2021

Dear River Dell Community:

As we approach the holiday break, we are seeing an increase in COVID cases in our community and across the state. The NJ Department of Health recently increased the risk level to Orange or High Risk for the entire state. We currently have sixty-eight (68%) percent of our students and ninety-four (94%) percent of staff fully vaccinated. While these percentages provide comfort, they do not exempt us from complying with the requirements of the state's high-risk status.

Effective, December 14, 2021, the following increased protocols are in place:

- 1) The quarantine period for close contacts of positive individuals is now fourteen (14) days. The period cannot be reduced with early testing. Fully vaccinated individuals and those who clinically recovered from a COVID infection within ninety (90) days of the close contact do not need to quarantine.
- 2) However, we are asking that individuals who meet these exemptions stay home until receiving a negative test if the close contact is a family member who lives in the same household.
- 3) Individuals who test positive must continue quarantine for ten (10) days from symptom onset or the date of the positive test when asymptomatic. Individuals may not return until they are symptom free and without fever for twenty-four hours without the use of fever reducing medicine.
- 4) We are reversing the protocols put in place last week regarding physical education. Students will need to be masked during indoor physical education.
- 5) We are reversing the protocols put in place last week regarding student performances. Students will need to be masked during performances except when the mask interferes with the activity.

Please be reminded that while New Jersey does not have travel restrictions in place, the Departments of Health and Education recommend that CDC guidelines be followed. Full details may be found at this link - [Travel | CDC](#). Please note that there may be additional procedures imposed by airlines and destinations.

Thank you again and enjoy a safe and wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "PJF", written over a white background.

Patrick J. Fletcher
Superintendent of Schools

PJF/le