



January 4, 2022

2022 has certainly made itself heard as it rings in the new year! With it, it has brought continued challenges with limited testing resources, high spikes in COVID cases, and increased live streaming. Despite this, the Rumson School District is committed to in-person instruction. In order to do so, we have had to modify procedures numerous times during this opening week of school. Thank you for your patience with this.

We have been fortunate to be able to be in school these past two days while many other districts have been virtual. In this time we have recognized a few areas of note that we hope sharing with you will maintain our ability to stay open for in-person instruction.

1. If your **child is showing any COVID-like symptoms**, please keep them home and either wait for symptoms to completely pass or get them tested for COVID. Any alternative diagnosis from a physician will be reviewed by our administration, nurses, and school doctor to determine if it will be accepted without a COVID test.
2. If **anyone in your immediate home** has symptoms, is pending physician consultation, pending COVID testing due to symptoms, or is COVID+ please keep the remainder of the household home until that individual is cleared.
3. If your **child is vaccinated for COVID**, the only way the district can accept this as an exemption to close contact quarantine or travel quarantine is if proof of vaccination is uploaded to Genesis ( not just clicking the toggle). Our school nurses or administration cannot accept a verbal notification and emailing us a copy is difficult to manage in current circumstances.
4. Due to the limited availability of rapid COVID tests and in the effort to create a more **guaranteed testing site and schedule** on the school campus we will be pivoting to PCR testing only every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:00am- 12:00pm. (*Wednesday 1/5/22 will be 8:00AM - 9:00AM*). We offer this as a convenient solution to finding alternative testing.
  - Please print, fill out, and bring the form found at [www.rumsonschool.org](http://www.rumsonschool.org) to the test with you.
  - The testing waiting area will be outdoors so please dress accordingly.
  - Testing is for Forrestdale and Deane-Porter students and staff only at this time.

For Close Contacts of a COVID+

Unvaccinated close contacts of a COVID+ individual will need to quarantine 5 days. If you are symptom free on day 5 and after you have reported a COVID negative PCR test conducted no sooner than day 5 (testing available at the school per above information) you may return to school and symptom watch for the rest of the 10 day period. Otherwise you can choose to quarantine for the full 10 days. For anyone who has received a COVID+ contact letter from your building principal prior to this letter, please follow these updated instructions.

5. If a student is symptomatic, or the school asks a student to be tested, you may utilize the on campus PCR testing site for testing. Please print, fill out, and bring the COVID Testing Form found at [www.rumsonschool.org](http://www.rumsonschool.org) to the test with you.

Thank you for your patience while we navigate the demands of this most recent COVID spike. While industries around us enter into various modes of shut down it is our hope that your support will enable us to keep our students in school through the next few weeks as we outrun this spike.

Regards,

Dr. Bormann

Superintendent of Schools

Borough of Rumson School District