

COVID-19 Mitigation

As the COVID-19 Pandemic continues to change, NJSD has adopted an approach that is flexible in order to meet the following priorities:

- Maintain a safe and healthy learning environment for all students and staff
- Prioritize in-person learning for all students

The following steps are intended to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 in our schools. The approach to mitigation will always be made with local health departments and/or medical professionals. The scenarios and strategies outlined below are not intended to be all-inclusive. Rather, they provide guidelines for decisions regarding mitigation strategies. Decisions will be made at the discretion of the administration.

The following assumptions are to be made when operationalizing the approach to mitigation:

- PCR testing is the most valid form of testing and will be used to determine exclusions of students as well as return of students to school from COVID-19 related quarantine.
- Students refusing a mandatory PCR test will be required to quarantine when deemed a close contact to a positive case.
- Vaccinated students are permitted to remain in school even when deemed a close contact to a positive case PROVIDED THEY HAVE NO COVID-19 SYMPTOMS.

High Probability of Transmission Scenarios
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Two or more confirmed positive cases in a single classroom, athletic team, or performance group● Unvaccinated student(s) who are close contact(s) to a positive case within the household● Unvaccinated and unmasked student(s) who are close contact to a positive case in a classroom <p>Additional considerations for determining high probability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Trajectory of positive cases in the community is significantly increasing● High percentage of positive test results in school-aged children in the community● High aggregate number of positive cases in school-aged children in the community● Student absentee rate is significantly above normal
<p>Mitigation strategies will minimally include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Period of quarantine for students deemed a close contact to positive case● Masking for at least 7 days from last contact to a positive case for all students/staff who were exposed, i.e., not a close contact in classroom, team, or performance group.● Required testing for all students exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms or unvaccinated students deemed to be a close contact to a positive case

Mitigation strategies may also include:

- Masking for students in a classroom, school, or the District.
- Mandatory testing for all vaccinated and unvaccinated students; students, both vaccinated and unvaccinated, refusing a test will be required to quarantine
- Classroom transitions to virtual learning

In this scenario, the following will apply to vaccinated students:	In this scenario, the following will apply to unvaccinated students:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete contact tracing in classrooms and other school settings ● Notify families of close contacts ● Instruct family to monitor for symptoms; remain home if symptoms are present ● Encourage testing at school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete contact tracing in classrooms and other school settings ● Notify families that student was a close contact in classrooms or other school activity and require quarantine for 14 days after last contact to a positive case ● Require testing at school; if a student refuses a test, quarantine is required (14 days from last contact with the positive case). A student may return to school and/or school sponsored activities with a negative PCR test after day 7 of last contact with a positive case. ● If a student is a close contact to a positive case in his/her household, the student will be required to quarantine for 14 days from last contact with the positive case. <p>**Note: students deemed a close contact to a positive case should test on/after day 5 from last exposure to contact; students should remain home while awaiting test and pending test results and will not return to school or school activities until after day 7 from last exposure to a positive case. The ideal test date is 7 days after last contact with a positive case.</p>

Moderate Probability of Transmission Scenarios

- Confirmed positive case(s) in a single classroom, athletic team, or performance group with known origins and with no known evidence of transmission in school or on athletic team or performance group
- Unvaccinated and unmasked student(s) who are close contact to a positive case in a classroom
- Trajectory of positive cases in the community is increasing
- Moderately high percentage of positive test results in school-aged children in the community
- Moderately high aggregate number of positive cases in school-aged children in the community
- Student absentee rate is above normal

Mitigation strategy will minimally include:

- Period of quarantine for students deemed a close contact to positive case
- Required testing for all students exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms or unvaccinated students deemed to be a close contact to a positive case

Mitigation strategy may also include:

- Mandatory testing for all students; unvaccinated students refusing a test will be required to quarantine
- Masking for all students and staff in scenarios where positive case(s) have occurred

In this scenario, the following will apply to vaccinated students:	In this scenario, the following will apply to unvaccinated students:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete contact tracing in classrooms and other school settings ● Notify families of close contacts ● Instruct family to monitor for symptoms; remain home if symptoms are present ● Encourage testing at school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete contact tracing in classrooms and other school settings ● Notify families of close contacts ● All students deemed a close contact to a positive case will be required to quarantine for 14 days from last contact to a positive. ● Encourage testing at school <p>**Note: students deemed a close contact to a positive case should test on/after day 5 from last exposure to contact; students should remain home while awaiting test and pending test results and will not return to school or school activities until after day 7 from last exposure to a positive case. The ideal test date is 7 days after last contact with a positive case.</p>

Low Probability of Transmission

- Minimal or no COVID-19 positive cases in school, classroom, or District and the origin of the positive case(s) are known to school and local health department officials
- Trajectory of positive cases in the community is stable or decreasing
- Low to moderate percentage of positive test results in school-aged children in the community
- Moderate to low aggregate number of positive cases in school-aged children in the community
- Student absentee rate is normal or below normal

Mitigation strategy will minimally include:

- Recommended period of quarantine for unvaccinated students deemed a close contact to positive case
- Required testing for all students exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms or unvaccinated students deemed to be a close contact to a positive case

In this scenario, the following will apply to vaccinated students:	In this scenario, the following will apply to unvaccinated students:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete contact tracing in classrooms and other school settings ● Notify families of close contacts ● Instruct family to monitor for symptoms; remain home if symptoms are present ● Encourage testing at school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete contact tracing in classrooms and other school settings ● Notify families of close contacts ● Instruct family to monitor for symptoms; remain home if symptoms are present ● Encourage testing at school

COVID-19 Testing

Summit Labs will provide testing for all students and staff in NJSD. NJSD will have access to both rapid antigen and PCR testing. Testing will be immediately available throughout the school day and will be performed by a representative from Summit Labs. Students must have a signed waiver on file prior to completing a test. The waiver provides permission for testing as well as permission to share test results with NJSD. Results of PCR testing will be available in most cases within 24 hours.

Summit Labs will provide the following on-site testing support:

- 4 technicians devoted to testing students. Two technicians will be assigned to the elementary schools, one technician to the middle schools, and one technician to Neenah High School.
- Technicians will be on site for the duration of each school day.