

Pearl River School District

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Update from the Rockland County Department of Health

March 26, 2021

Dear Pearl River School Community,

This morning, the Rockland County Department of Health invited school districts to a conference call to provide schools with updated guidance on COVID-19. County health officials offered the following updates for schools and school districts:

- As of April 1st, anyone traveling domestically will not have to quarantine upon return to NY; the DOH confirmed that written guidance is coming and suggested that we share this information with our school community. Anyone traveling outside of the US will be required to quarantine, regardless of vaccination status or a previous positive test. We will be revising our daily screening document to reflect this change upon return from spring break.
- NYSDOH is revising their guidance to reflect that individuals who are fully vaccinated (> than 2 weeks after the last dose of a double-dose vaccine or the last dose of a single- dose vaccine) will not have to quarantine if exposed to COVID-19 indefinitely, provided that the individual is asymptomatic. Currently, the guidance is that fully vaccinated individuals do not have to quarantine if exposed within 90 days of being fully vaccinated.
- As schools move to less than 6 ft of social distancing, the quarantine rules that were issued on February 11, 2021 will remain in effect. Currently, in a classroom with 6 ft social distancing, we must quarantine the perimeter of students who are 6 ft away from an infected individual. This typically amounts to 1 row away on all sides. Once we reduce the distance between students, we must continue to quarantine students 6 feet away, but the perimeter will now include two rows of students on all sides. For lunch or snack time situations where students remove their masks, or physical activity situations such as physical education class, and instrumental or vocal music classes, the distance is 12 feet. The use of a desk barrier will not have an impact on this requirement.
- The NYSDOH is reviewing the latest guidance issued by the CDC and may be issuing new guidance to schools. In its latest guidance, the CDC removed reference to the use of desk barriers. NYSDOH still maintains a social distancing requirement of 6 ft. or use of a barrier.

As a reminder, Pearl River Schools will be closed for spring break from Monday, March 29th through Monday, April 5th. Schools reopen on Tuesday, April 6th. We hope that you enjoy spring break with your family!