



Mr. Thomas J. Colabufo
Superintendent

September 12, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians:

On August 23, 2022, we sent all parents and guardians the updated COVID-19 guidelines that we received from the NYS Health Department, seen [HERE](#). Today, we are experiencing an uptick in COVID positive cases, which seems to be consistent with school districts in Oswego County and neighboring counties. Unlike the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year, the State is not having school districts conduct contact tracing as no one besides a student or staff member that has tested positive is required to quarantine. The State recognized the importance of students being at school and allowed school districts to return to pre-pandemic conditions.

The State is no longer having school districts report positive cases on their State reporting system. We are letting all parents know that we have a very large supply of at-home test kits that are in every school's main office that parents and guardians can pick-up. We are not distributing these to students to bring home because there is a chemical reagent in every test kit, and we do not feel comfortable giving those to students. This is exactly what we did last year, and we want all parents to know that those test kits are available in their child's school.

This letter is not to cause widespread panic, it is to simply acknowledge the fact that school is operating while COVID-19 is still a factor in our communities. When a student or staff member tests positive, the State is requiring them to quarantine for 5 days and they can return on the 6th day (wearing a mask through Day 10), as long as they were fever free on their 5th day of quarantine. Throughout the school year, your child could very well be in a classroom, school bus, cafeteria lunch table, and playground, with a student that has tested positive. We continue to ask all parents/guardians to continue to monitor their children's health, and if the child is sick, then we ask that the child stays home until they feel better, similar to how all schools operated prior to the pandemic.

We are fully committed to providing all students with an excellent learning experience, even during another school year where COVID-19 is still a factor. We recognize that the pandemic still presents challenges to families and our staff, but we are optimistic that this will be a wonderful school year for our students.

If you have any COVID-related questions, please contact your child's school, and our staff will walk you through the current protocols. The start of school has gone very smoothly, and we are extremely appreciative to all of our staff members that continue to work very diligently in supporting our students so that they all feel welcome.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Colabufo
Superintendent