

PLAINVIEW-OLD BETHPAGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

106 Washington Avenue, Plainview, New York 11803

www.pobschools.org



*Dr. Mary O'Meara
Superintendent of Schools*

January 11, 2022

Dear POB School Community,

Last night, I shared that the New York State Department of Health issued [new guidance](#) on isolation and quarantine times/protocols. While the Nassau County Department of Health (NCDOH) has not published written guidance, today the NCDOH communicated with Nassau Superintendents that the new isolation and quarantine times are in effect and schools can recalculate return dates based on this new guidance. This new guidance comes with specific conditions.

Please note:

Isolation: Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate for a minimum of 5 days (regardless of vaccination status). If symptoms persist, further isolation will be required; otherwise, they may attend or work at school after the 5-day isolation.

Quarantine: All fully vaccinated individuals who have been exposed to an individual with COVID-19 may continue to attend or work at school, regardless of booster status, while quarantined outside of school. Continued attendance applies only to participation in classroom activities and taking the bus to and from school. Close contacts are quarantined from extra-curricular activities for 5 days.

Extracurricular or after school activities: Individuals 12-years and older who are eligible for a booster but not boosted, and who have been exposed to an individual with COVID-19, cannot participate in extracurricular or after school activities and, aside from school attendance for instruction and bus travel, must adhere to a 5-day quarantine at home. Fully vaccinated 5-11-year-old children are not eligible for a booster and have no further restrictions.

Students, teachers, and staff who are not vaccinated or have not completed a primary vaccine series: Individuals who came into close contact with someone with COVID-19 should quarantine for at least 5 days (day 0 through day 5) after their last close contact. These individuals could be eligible for Test to Stay programs that would allow them to stay in the school setting during the quarantine period. Outside the school setting, quarantine recommendations would apply.

Students currently in quarantine or in isolation may be eligible to return before the date given by building administration. Please see the chart below. Parents/Guardians must complete the [health questionnaire](#) prior to a child's return from isolation.

If you have any questions, **please do not contact your child's school**. Due to the number of cases from last week, and the ongoing work processing new cases, building administration and nurses will not be able to assist you. Please submit all questions to: covidquestions@pobschools.org

The speed with which guidance is changing and the way it is being communicated has made it difficult to host an immediate Town Hall Meeting and engage the community in a Q&A. The District anticipates that more specifics and information about the Test to Stay program will be forthcoming. We will host a Town Hall next week; date and time will be shared later this week.

The most important piece of information you need to know is that the District will be monitoring the students returning from isolation. We ask for your assistance by keeping your ill children home until they are well enough to return. The District will not be asking infected staff members to return prematurely; but will encourage them to recover from their illness before returning.

The chart below illustrates initial return dates communicated to families, along with revised return to school dates.

Original Isolations/Quarantine Return	Revised Isolation/Quarantine Date (Must complete health screener)	Return to School Date
1/17/22	1/12/22	1/12/22
1/18/22	1/13/22	1/13/22
1/19/22	1/14/22	1/14/22
1/20/22	1/15/22	1/18/22
1/21/22	1/16/22	1/18/22

The covidquestions@pobschools.org email has been created to answer questions for families who have children currently in isolation or quarantine. **Please do not use this email to share opinions or to ask hypothetical questions.** We will host a Town Hall next week for those purposes. Thank you.

My apologies for the lengthy correspondence.

Sincerely,
Dr. O'Meara
Superintendent of Schools