

2022-2023 COVID Information - Holland Patent Central School District

The Holland Patent Central School District is following the latest guidance (8/1/22 and 9/8/22) from the [New York State Department of Health regarding COVID-19](#). As a result, we have returned to school providing strong academics, a variety of extracurricular and athletic offerings, and maximizing space and staff without social distancing restrictions. The most up-to-date links and documents can be found on our webpage for [our Health Offices](#).

Here is an overview of the information regarding the changes to assist our school community:

Illness/Positive COVID Test

As with **any** infectious illness, students and staff who test positive for COVID-19, or who show symptoms, are asked to **stay home** from school and follow the [Centers for Disease Control's Isolation Guidance](#) and the [New York State Department of Health Isolation Guidance](#), particularly these two statements:

- Someone who tested positive and has no symptoms may return to school after day 5.
- Someone who is sick (has symptoms) may return to school after day 5 if they have been fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication) and symptoms are improving.

See Flowchart on page 2

*There is **no longer** a requirement to demonstrate/provide proof of a negative COVID test to determine return to school or work. People who have been sick, or tested positive, should wear a mask through day 10.*

Quarantining is no longer recommended for people who are exposed to COVID-19. In schools, people who were exposed to COVID-19 should follow recommendations to wear a well-fitting mask and get tested.

September 2022



Holland Patent Central School District - 2022-2023 School Year

Flowchart for COVID Positive

Based on CDC/NYSDOH/NYSED Guidance 8/22/22 and 9/8/22

STAFF/STUDENT **POSITIVE** COVID TEST

Positive Case is Confirmed (PCR Test or Rapid Test)
Minimum 5-day ISOLATION
Regardless if you have symptoms or not

Return to School/Work on Day 6

- Completed the five (5) day ISOLATION period from date of symptom onset OR the date when the COVID test was taken
- May return on day six (6) IF:
 - Asymptomatic or symptoms are improving and
 - No fever for 24 hours, without fever reducing medicine

DO NOT Return to School/Work

- Completed the five (5) day ISOLATION period from date of symptom onset OR the date when the COVID test was taken
- May NOT return on day six (6) IF:
 - Symptomatic or symptoms NOT improving
 - Presence of fever within 24 hours,

How do I count the days? EXAMPLE:

- Day 0: Symptoms started (onset) or tested positive
- Day 1: Stay home
- Day 2: Stay home
- Day 3: Stay Home
- Day 4: Stay home
- Day 5: Stay home
- Day 6: Return to school if asymptomatic, or if symptoms are improving.

Pursuant to NYSDOH Guidelines, a person returning to school/work after 5 days should wear a mask from day 6-10.

***NEW** Quarantining is no longer recommended for people who are exposed to COVID-19. In schools, people who were exposed to COVID-19 should follow recommendations to wear a well-fitting mask and get tested.*

UPON RETURN TO SCHOOL/WORK

- Follow all COVID protocols regarding masking and hand-hygiene.
- If symptoms return or get worse, remain out of school/work until the above criteria can be met AND complete the 10-day isolation period.
- Testing is recommended for people with symptoms of COVID-19 as soon as possible after symptoms begin.

Testing & At-Home Test Kits Available at School

Testing is recommended for people with symptoms of COVID-19 as soon as possible after symptoms begin. Our school nurses will **not** be administering COVID-19 tests in our building health offices. If a child is demonstrating symptoms, the parent/guardian will be asked to pick up the child from school and follow-up as needed with a medical provider.

Test kits for at-home use are available at the school nurse's office, as well as the District Office building behind the Middle School, for anyone in need to test students or immediate household members. If you need a home COVID At-Home Test Kit, please contact the school nurse at your child's school or stop by the District Facilities Office Door or call Kathy Pianka at 315-865-7213. Tests can be picked up during regular school hours. All tests must be picked up by a parent/guardian and are unable to be sent home with students.

COVID-19 Vaccination Information

Children ages 6 months and older are all eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Children older than 5 are eligible for a booster. COVID-19 vaccinations are not required to attend school or work. For more information on vaccination sites, visit ny.gov/vaxtoschool.

Masks

Mask-wearing is recommended for at least 10 days following a positive COVID test, or COVID illness. Any student or staff member may wear a mask while at school to prevent the spread of illness. No one shall be bullied, harassed, or discouraged from wearing a mask. Schools will have extra face masks on hand to distribute to students and staff for personal protection.

Health and Safety Protocols

Routine cleaning in our school buildings and buses continues to be an important strategy for reducing the spread of illness. High-risk areas such as health offices, classrooms, lunchrooms, athletic rooms, bathrooms and high-traffic areas are cleaned and disinfected at a greater frequency. High-touch surfaces such as bus seats, lunch tables, desks, chairs, light switches and handrails are cleaned at a greater frequency.

The district shall continue to use disinfectant equipment in large spaces on a routine basis, and in the case of a known COVID exposure. Hand washing and sanitizing is strongly recommended. Hand sanitizer will be readily available. Increased ventilation in designated areas is also a standing practice, lending to generally healthier environments within buildings.