



Mount Sinai Union Free School District

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March 4, 2022

Dear Mount Sinai Parent/Guardians:

Governor Hochul announced that the statewide mask requirement in schools would be lifted effective Wednesday, March 1, 2022. Masking is also no longer required on school buses. On the evening of March 1, 2022, we received updated guidance from the New York State Department of Health and would like to take this opportunity to share it with our families.

What Parents/Guardians Need to Know

The New York State Department of Health **Requires** the following:

Students who Test Positive for COVID-19

- Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 and are symptom free after 5 days of isolation are required to mask in school on days 6-10.

Students who have COVID-19 Symptoms

- For now, NYSDOH continues to require testing of symptomatic individuals.
- Symptomatic students who are not tested must be excluded from school for at least 5 days following onset of symptoms and until they are fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms are improving. After returning to school, they must wear a mask for days 6-10.
- If a student is sent home with COVID-19 symptoms, the District will offer a COVID-19 Test Kit to the parent/guardian picking up their child.
- If a student exhibits COVID-19 symptoms and tests negative, the student may return to school as long as they are fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms are improving.

All other guidance from the New York State Department of Health are **Recommendations** (not required).

Mask Wearing - NYSDOH recommends students wear masks when:

- They feel more comfortable wearing a mask for personal reasons.
- They were in the same classroom as an individual who tested positive for COVID-19.
- They are moderately-to-severely immunocompromised and have discussed the need to mask with their healthcare provider(s).

Quarantine - Students no longer need to quarantine if exposed to COVID-19.

- Students who are "potentially exposed" (in the same class as an individual who tests positive to COVID-19) are not required to quarantine.

- Grades K-6 - Families will be notified if your child is in a classroom with an individual who tests positive for COVID-19.
- Grades 7-12 – If it is deemed that your child is a close contact to someone confirmed COVID-19 positive, you will be notified.

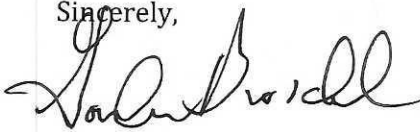
Based on the NYSDOH guidance, for those considered potential close contacts, it is recommended (not required) that the individual:

- Wear a mask in school and indoor spaces for 10 days after exposure.
- Consider testing immediately upon learning of the exposure or potential exposure.
- Monitor for symptoms of COVID-19.

Cafeterias

- Cafeterias will resume their pre-COVID layout in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,



Gordon Brosdal
Superintendent of Schools