



Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen

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Constance D. Evelyn, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

January 11, 2022

Dear Valley Stream Thirteen Families:

The New York State Department of Health and the Nassau County Department of Health have recently adopted the new isolation and quarantine rules put forth by the [Centers for Disease Control](#). The latest information from the NYSDOH to schools was received yesterday and indicates that schools can now move forward with the revised isolation and quarantine guidance. The district will immediately implement the new changes. Please review the full guidance from the NYSDOH [HERE](#). **It is important that you review and follow the new changes fully as families must make determinations regarding an individual's symptoms and ability to wear masks as outlined within the new guidelines.** If you have any questions, please contact your school nurse or principal who will assist you.

Students and staff must continue to wear masks under current State regulations. On Friday, school districts across New York were [advised by the Commissioner of Education](#), Betty Rosa, that masks are still required for all individuals in school.

January 12th is the last day for pickup of COVID home test kits for students. Please follow instructions received by your principal for picking up your kits.

The NYS DOH has recommended the use of Test-to-Stay (TTS) protocols to keep students in school, however this is currently not approved by the Nassau County DOH, therefore, at this time, **there is no TTS in place for our district.**

Summary of January 10th school guidelines for quarantine (exposure to COVID) and isolation (tested positive for COVID):

Quarantine (individuals exposed to someone with COVID-19):

All fully vaccinated* individuals (students, teachers, and staff), 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. This recommendation continues previous guidance in place prior to January 4. Continued attendance applies only to participation in classroom activities and taking the bus to and from school.

***Fully vaccinated** is defined as two weeks after the receipt of either two doses of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or one dose of Johnson and Johnson vaccine or full course of any other recognized vaccine.

Students, teachers, and staff who are **not vaccinated** or have not completed a primary vaccine series 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.

Isolation- regardless of vaccination status:

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.

Please be sure to review the comprehensive information from the NYSDOH [HERE](#).

Sincerely,

Dr. Evelyn

Constance D. Evelyn, Ed.D.