



HAWTHORNE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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December 23, 2021

Dear Hawthorne Families,

As we begin the winter recess, please remember that should your child or any member of your household test positive for COVID-19 during this closure, please contact your child's Principal or school nurse immediately. Since September, we've monitored district COVID cases for each school and throughout the district. It's important that this ongoing monitoring of COVID numbers and additional positive cases continue over the winter recess.

As the number of positive COVID cases rises in Hawthorne, we want to ensure that we have accurate data for reporting and decision-making purposes with our local health department. As per the most recent [NJ Department of Education Guidance Regarding School Closures](#) "*Districts must consult their local health department to determine if a closure is necessary due to COVID-19 outbreaks. Prior to closing any school building(s) due to COVID-19, LEAs must first consult with the local health department (LHD) to determine if building closure is the most appropriate response to the circumstances in a given school building.*"

We would also like to remind all families to please adhere to our [December 9, 2021, COVID Quarantine and Exclusion Update](#) over the course of the winter recess and upon return to school on January 3, 2022. As per our district calendar, it is our intention to reopen schools for in-person instruction on Monday, January 3, 2022. However, should a recommendation be made by our health department to change our plans prior to January 3rd, the district will communicate those changes to families as soon as possible.

Finally, as we close out 2021 and begin 2022, we want to thank everyone for their patience and support as we navigate these challenging times. On behalf of everyone in the Hawthorne Public Schools, we wish everyone Happy Holidays and a Happy and Healthy 2022!

With Appreciation,

Richard A. Spirito