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HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Broadcast

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff,

Good Afternoon.

In recent days, I have received several emails of correspondence regarding the district requirements for travel outside of the New Jersey, Pennslyvania, and Delaware regions. On September 2nd, 2021, the district's protocols described at the bottom were formally adopted and **will remain in effect** for the foreseeable future and be reevaluated before the winter break. Our rationale for maintaining adherence to the travel advisory recommended by the New Jersey Department of Health is as follows:

- Unlike last school year, we are educating all of our students daily. Because students are not cohorting, and do not have the option for remote instruction, their physical proximity in school is not as distanced as 2020-2021. Maintaining our adherence to the travel advisory is a protective measure for all students while considering the different in-school factors such as our classroom, hallway, and cafeteria environments.
- Current vaccination rates among all Haddon Township children ages 12-17 is 64%. It is considerably lower than some surrounding communities, and a substantial number of eligible students (36%) are still unvaccinated and more vulnerable to COVID-19 risks. Maintaining the travel advisory until more students have had the opportunity to become fully vaccinated will mitigate the risk of transmission in school. https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_dashboard.shtml
- We are proud of the consistency and continuity of educational services that HTSD has provided since the opening of school in September. However, in the last two weeks, we have had 15 individuals test positive for COVID-19, and we are cautious of the current risks. Staying the course with the travel advisory is just one way that we are continuing to maximize safety and wellness for all students and staff while mitigating risks.

September 2nd Correspondence

The New Jersey Department of Health contacted us with updated guidance regarding travel restrictions. Based on this guidance, **we will now be following** the following protocols as recommended.

- (1) For individuals not fully vaccinated, a viral test should occur 3-5 after traveling outside New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware for 24 hours or longer. A self-quarantine should occur for seven days after travel for these areas, even with a negative test result. If testing is not completed post-travel, individuals should self-quarantine for ten days, during which remote instruction will be provided.
- (2) Individuals who are fully vaccinated should get tested 3-5 days upon return to NJ and should monitor for symptoms of covid for 14 days. No quarantine period is necessary if NO symptoms are present.

If you have specific questions regarding potential travel quarantines, please contact your school nurse. Have a great day.

-Sincerely,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed.D. Superintendent