



COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

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October 15, 2021

Dear Colts Neck Parent / Guardian,

We are providing this notification consistent with the district's *Safe Return Plan*.

The district has received notice of two individuals who have tested positive for COVID. One case is at Conover Road Primary School and one case is at Cedar Drive Middle School. Please note, although these cases involve members of our school community, an investigation done in conjunction with health department representatives found that the school was likely not the source of transmission. All school-related close contacts associated with these cases were notified and must quarantine at home in accordance with the current New Jersey Department of Health's quarantine timeframe for close contacts. Both cases are currently under investigation by county and local health officials. Individual privacy and confidentiality restrictions prevent us from sharing specific details about this individual.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines a close contact as an individual who is within 6 feet of someone with suspected or known COVID-19 for 15 or more minutes during a 24-hour period. In certain situations, it may be difficult to determine whether individuals have met this criterion and an entire cohort, classroom, or other groups may need to be considered exposed. **EXCEPTION** (updated August 2021): In the K-12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) where both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time. This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.

Here is the COVID-19 Weekly Activity Level Report for the week ending October 9, 2021: <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/statistics/covid/>. The district's *Safe Return Plan* was designed with the anticipation that cases could sporadically arise. The district's *Safe Return Plan*, along with additional information related to COVID-19, can be accessed on the district's website, <https://www.coltsneckschools.org/>, under the "COVID Information" tab.

To minimize the impact of COVID upon our school community, we remain committed to implementing our protocols and following recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and New Jersey Department of Health.

Educationally yours,
Dr. MaryJane Garibay, Superintendent of Schools