



COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

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December 17, 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 four individuals who tested positive for COVID. Two cases are at Conover Road Elementary School and two cases are at Cedar Drive Middle School. These cases are under investigation by county and local health officials. Additionally, all school-related close contacts associated with these cases have been notified and are required to quarantine at home in accordance with district protocols and the New Jersey Department of Health's guidelines. As always, individual privacy and confidentiality restrictions prevent us from sharing specific details about these individuals.

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.

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 December 11, 2021: <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/statistics/covid/>.

As we continue to address COVID-related situations that impact our students, staff, and families, we are grateful for the open lines of communication and partnerships with our Colts Neck families. On behalf of the Colts Neck Township Schools, we sincerely thank you for your continued cooperation, patience, and understanding.

Educationally yours,
Dr. MaryJane Garibay, Superintendent of Schools