

## RPS Return to 2022-2023 COVID-19 Protocols

The RPS Health and Safety Committee has reviewed updated guidance from the CT Department of Public Health (DPH) that was released in mid-July and can be found [here](#) and [here](#). Our in-district COVID-19 practices have been updated from last year with the goal of maximizing in-person learning for our students.

To maximize in person learning, students and staff may attend school if they have mild respiratory symptoms (see below for examples). Children and staff with mild respiratory disease symptoms (e.g., infrequent cough, congestion, runny nose, sore throat, etc.) may continue participating in-person provided:

- they are fever-free (< 100°F) and feel well enough to participate,
- they do not live with anyone who has had COVID-19 in the past 2 weeks,
- they test negative for COVID-19 prior to reporting in-person on every day they have symptoms, as well as one final test on the morning their symptoms have completely resolved.
- The DPH encourages individuals with these mild respiratory symptoms to wear a well fitting mask.

Individuals who have any respiratory disease symptoms should not attend in person if:

- they have a fever ( $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) or feel feverish (they should not report in-person until their fever has resolved for at least 24 hours without the use of medication)
- they live with a person who recently tested positive for COVID-19 (within the past 2 weeks)

Mild respiratory disease symptoms may include but are not limited to the symptoms below. Please consult your school nurse if you have a question regarding whether or not your child has mild respiratory disease symptoms.

- infrequent cough,
- congestion,
- runny nose,
- sore throat,

Other change to our in-district protocols include:

- The district will no longer be conducting remote learning for students at home with a positive case of COVID-19, regardless of symptoms.
- Classroom contact tracing will no longer take place
- While the district will continue to post on its COVID tracker on the district website the positive cases of COVID-19 in our schools, we will not be making announcements at the classroom or school level of positive cases.
- COVID-19 cases will be reported to the Connecticut Department of Public Health

Protocols that are staying the same as last year:

- Masks will continue to be optional for students and staff if they remain asymptomatic.
- Those students or staff exposed to COVID-19 in their homes who are (1) COVID negative, and (2) not exhibiting any mild respiratory or [COVID symptoms](#) will not be required to quarantine and may participate in person.
- RPS will continue to implement the “return to school on day 6 protocol.” This protocol refers to the timeline for which a person who has tested positive for COVID may return to school. Individuals who tested COVID positive may return to school on the sixth day after their positive test result, so long as the person’s symptoms are improved and the individual wears a mask through the tenth day from the positive test.
- Parents should continue reporting cases to the school nurse.
- Test kits and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) are available at all of our school, please contact your school nurse
- RPS will continue with alcohol-based hand sanitizers throughout the district
- RPS will continue all ventilation and air purging protocols as outlined by CT DPH
- Families can also order self-test kits by visiting <https://www.covid.gov/tests>
- Anyone testing positive for COVID-19 should complete isolation. Please refer to your school nurse if you have questions regarding the isolation timeline.

For RHS Student Athletes:

The Post-COVID Return-to-Play Form and Protocol is the same as it was last school year. Parents and students may find use this [document](#).