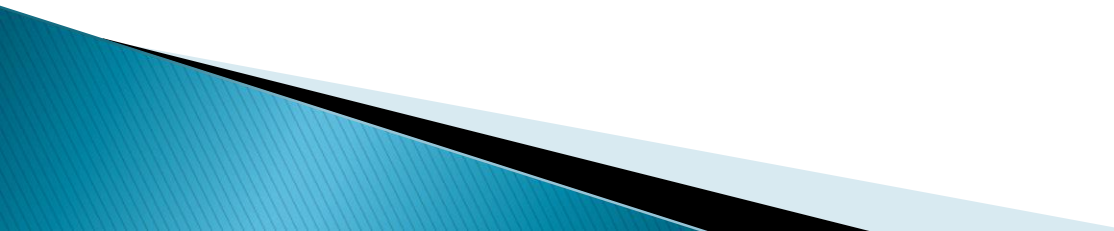


WELCOME TO THE 2021–2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Superintendent's Town Hall
Michael Mai, Superintendent
August 31, 2021

AGENDA

- ▶ Please submit all questions in the chat
 - If time permits, interactive Q&A will follow this presentation and addressing of all submitted questions
 - ▶ Covid-19 updates
 - ▶ District Protocols
 - ▶ Quarantine Info
 - ▶ Travel Info
 - ▶ What Ifs
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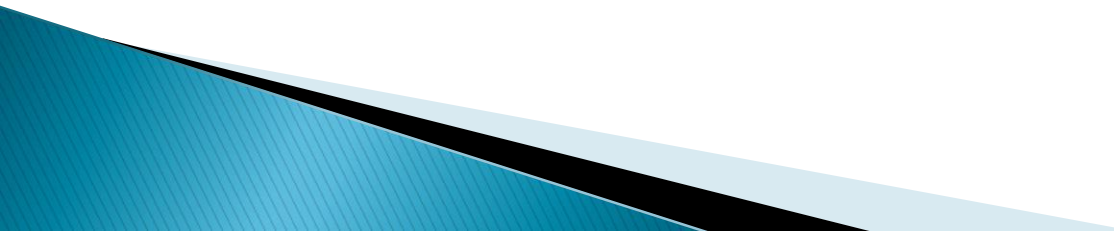
THE LATEST ON COVID-19

- ▶ CALI Index: 13.78 daily cases per 100k residents in Northwest Region (as of 8/26/21)
 - Northwest Region: Warren, Morris, Sussex, Passaic
 - 2nd Lowest in NJ
 - Warren County in July:
 - Ages 0–12 – 6% of all new confirmed cases
 - Ages 13–17 – 9.5% of all new confirmed cases
 - Warren County in August:
 - Ages 0–12 – 14% of all new confirmed cases
 - Ages 13–17 – 10% of all new confirmed cases
- ▶ Delta variant of greatest concern due to ease of transmission
- ▶ Pfizer vaccine received FDA approval (8/23)

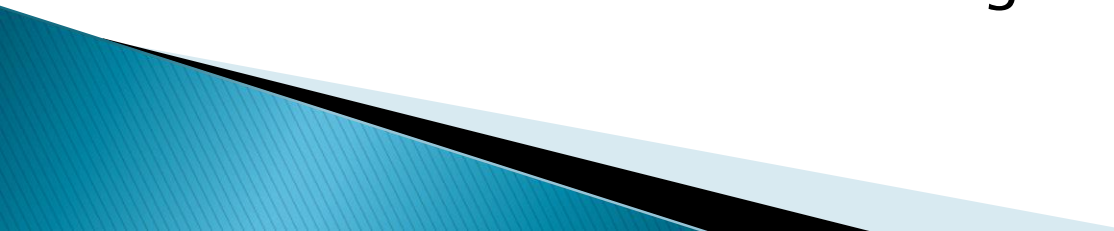
FROM THE STATE

- ▶ NJ Governor's Executive Order 251
 - Mandates mask wearing in all school buildings
 - Same rules apply from 2020–21
 - Exemptions only if it impacts individual's health
 - Medical documentation required that will be verified by District physician
 - If verified, creation of 504 Plan or amendment to IEP indicating the need for exemption
 - Breaks will be provided
 - Masks not required outdoors; Outdoor learning encouraged
- ▶ NJ Governor's Executive Order 253
 - All staff, volunteers, etc. must be vaccinated or provide proof of testing 1–2 times per week


WHAT IS THE SAME FROM JUNE?

- ▶ GMRSD open on a traditional schedule!
 - ▶ Students maintain three feet of distance in classrooms and six feet in lunchrooms.
 - ▶ Masks (in school and on buses)
 - ▶ No guests or meetings during the school day. School-day meetings remain virtual.
 - ▶ Water fountains remain closed. Bottle fillers available in all schools
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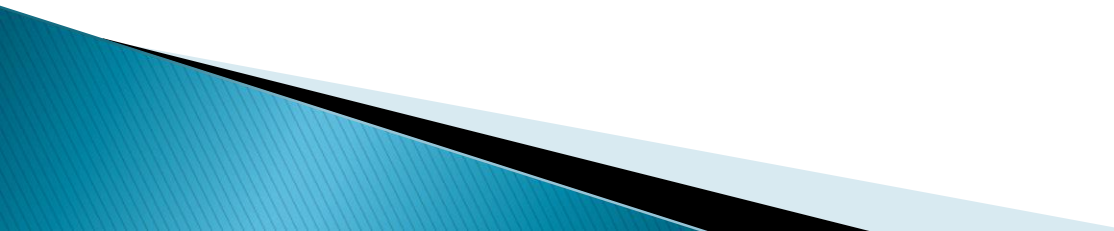
WHAT IS THE SAME FROM JUNE?

- ▶ Free Covid-19 testing available Tuesdays from 4-7 in GMMS parking lot
 - ▶ Minimal sharing of supplies
 - ▶ Hand sanitizer available for all students
 - ▶ Hand washing encouraged throughout the day
 - ▶ Classrooms and restrooms sanitized frequently
 - ▶ Lunch tables cleaned thoroughly in between each lunch period
 - Lunch is still free of charge
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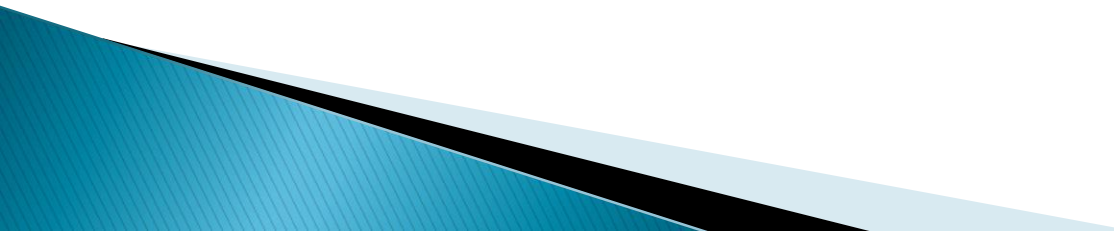
WHAT'S NEW (OR BACK TO THE OLD PROTOCOL)?

- ▶ Temperature checks will not be conducted on buses or in car line
 - Central School will revert to pre-Covid-19 parent drop-off and pickup
 - ▶ Back to School Night will be in-person (Sept. 23)
 - Early Dismissal Day
 - ▶ Breakfast Club
 - Free for all students P-8
 - 7:30-7:55 @ GMMS
 - 8:15-8:45 @ Central
 - Must be dropped off
- 

WHAT'S NEW (OR BACK TO THE OLD PROTOCOL)?

- ▶ Book Fairs, Field Trips, Assemblies, etc. may be scheduled, though changes to health conditions may cause transition to virtual, postponement, or cancellation on short notice.
 - This includes Washington DC for 8th grade
 - ▶ Lunch snacks are back!
 - ▶ More recess (P-3)/outdoor learning
 - ▶ Ms. Westberg and Ms. Saraiva
- 

QUARANTINE INFORMATION

- ▶ Parents should not send students to school when sick. For school settings, NJDOH recommends that students with the following symptoms be promptly isolated from others and excluded from school:
 - At least two of the following symptoms: fever (measure or subjective), chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion, or runny nose; OR
 - At least one of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new olfactory disorder, or new taste disorder.
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QUARANTINE INFORMATION

- ▶ COVID-19 Exclusion Criteria for Persons Who Have COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms or Who Test Positive for COVID-19:
 - COVID-19 compatible symptoms who have not been tested or individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 should stay home until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset and at least 24 hours have passed after resolution of fever without fever reducing medications
 - Persons who test positive for COVID-19 but who are asymptomatic should stay home for 10 days from the positive test result.
 - An alternate diagnosis (positive strep test or influenza swab, etc.) without a negative COVID-19 test is **not** acceptable for individuals who meet COVID-19 exclusion criteria to return to school earlier.

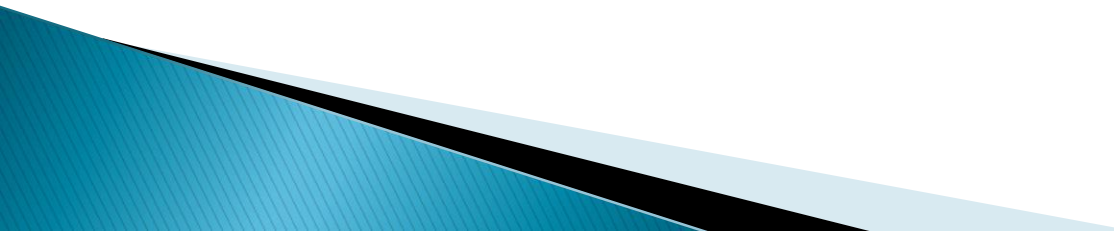
QUARANTINE INFORMATION

- ▶ COVID-19 Exclusion Criteria for Close Contacts (within 6 ft. for 15 minutes or more over a 24 hour period):
 - Vaccinated individuals are not considered close contact as long as they are symptom free
 - 14 days remains the CDC recommendation, HOWEVER
 - Excluded individuals who are close contacts of staff or students who tested positive for COVID-19 may be considered for a reduced exclusion period based on community transmission levels as follows:
 - High or Very High (orange or red) exposed close contacts should be excluded from school for 14 days.
 - Moderate or Low (yellow or green) exposed close contacts should be excluded from school for 10 days (or 7 days with negative test results collected at 5-7 days)

QUARANTINE INFORMATION

- ▶ Exposed close contacts who are fully vaccinated and have no COVID-like symptoms:
 - Do not need to quarantine, be excluded from school, or be tested following an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.
 - Should still monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following an exposure.
 - If they experience symptoms, they should isolate themselves from others and be clinically evaluated (tested) for COVID-19

INSTRUCTION DURING QUARANTINE

- ▶ In the event individuals or groups of students must quarantine due to a positive Covid-19 diagnosis, exposure, or close contact, GMRSD will initiate virtual instruction within two (2) school days from the time the individual or group enters quarantine.
 - ▶ Students will be able to view instruction via Google Meet and teachers will provide assignments, as appropriate.
 - ▶ All student cameras must be on during instructional time
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TRAVEL QUARANTINE

▶ Domestic Travel

➤ Unvaccinated Individuals

- If tested with a viral test 3–5 days after travel AND quarantine for a full 7 days after travel
- Even if you test negative, stay home and quarantine for the full 7 days
- If your test is positive, isolate yourself to protect others from getting infected
- If you do not get tested, quarantine for 10 days after travel

➤ Vaccinated individuals

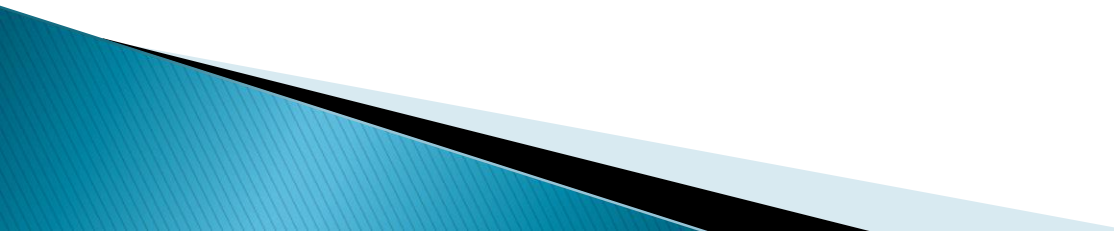
- No need to quarantine as long as symptomatic free

▶ International Travel

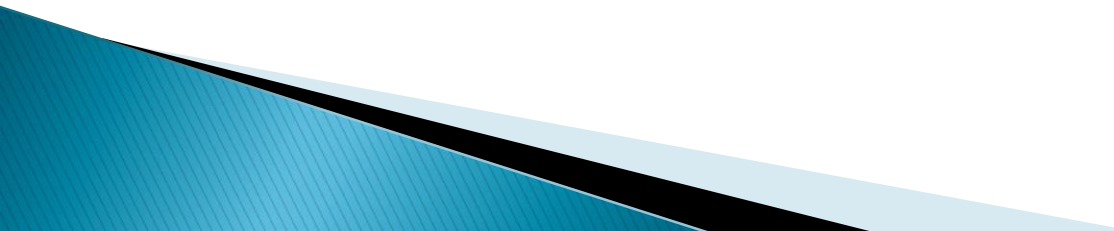
➤ Same as above except:

- Vaccinated individuals
- Tested with a viral test 3–5 days after travel

WORST CASE SCENARIO

- ▶ If mandates of 6 feet of distance return:
 - Return to Blue/Green hybrid
 - 5 full days with alternating Wednesday
 - At-home cohort views classroom instruction via Chromebook
 - ▶ If we are required to close due to high Covid-19 cases or a community outbreak:
 - Classes held via Google Meet
 - Work assigned via Google Classroom
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IN SUMMATION

- ▶ It's better, but it's not great.
 - ▶ Vaccine is important.
 - ▶ It is no longer uncharted territory.
 - ▶ We are moving forward as if this were a normal school year and will do so until either:
 - It becomes one, OR
 - We are forced to change course.
 - ▶ We must stick together and we will get through this!
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QUESTIONS

