

Kimberly J. Schneider, Ed. D. Superintendent

January 7, 2021

Dear MCSSSD students, families, and staff:

Happy New Year to everyone and we hope everyone had a very relaxing break! We are sending this reminder with the guidelines related to COVID-19 as we prepare to return to school on Tuesday, January 19, 2021.

We are asking each student and staff member to continue conducting daily temperature checks prior to coming to school each day. Along with these daily temperature checks, the student/staff health questionnaire needs to be completed **before boarding the bus or coming to work**. This link can be found at the top of our webpage at www.mcsssd.info and in your Google Classrooms. **Please note anyone with a fever of 100° or higher must stay home.** Contact your doctor if you have a fever or experience symptoms related to COVID-19. Remember to wear your mask daily and bring a spare mask in your backpack for emergencies. **Also, it is very important we have two (2) emergency contact numbers available to us.** If your child is sick, we will call you. Your child will need to be picked up within ninety (90) minutes of our phone call.

The following is the new recommendation from the State of New Jersey dated January 1, 2021 that we must follow:

In the context of an ongoing state-wide second wave, New Jersey continues to experience COVID-19 transmission among school-aged children. In children, signs/symptoms are often mild, and it may not be possible to clinically distinguish COVID-19 from other illnesses. For this reason, the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) recommends that any child with COVID-19 compatible symptoms should not return to school until they have either received a negative viral test (molecular or antigen) for SARS-CoV-2 or they have completed an isolation period of at least 10 days* since symptom onset and at least 24 hours after resolution of fever without fever-reducing medications with symptom improvement. A purely clinical alternative diagnosis is no longer acceptable (*MCSSSD will adhere to 14 days since we are considered "high risk").

If you or someone in your household has been sick with COVID-19, or is being tested for COVID-19, please notify your building principal and school nurse. We need to follow proper guidelines to ensure that contact tracing can be done accurately to reduce the possible spread of COVID-19 in our school setting.

The above guidelines start immediately since school will be returning to hybrid learning in less than two weeks. If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact your building principal or the school nurses.

We look forward to a successful re-opening of school.

Sincerely,

Kimberly J. Schneider, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools