



OGDENSBURG BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION
100 Main Street Ogdensburg, NJ 07439



Dave Astor
Superintendent/Principal

Skye Patete
Vice Principal

Richard Rennie
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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We are very pleased to inform you that COVID-19 cases have significantly decreased across the State, County and within the district. As a result, **as of March 7th**, Executive Order 253, which continued a requirement for students, staff, and visitors to wear face coverings/masks indoors on school premises, will expire. At that time, face coverings/masks in school buildings become optional in NJ, and mask wearing within Ogdensburg school will be voluntary regardless of vaccination status. Individuals should make masking decisions based on their specific situations. All students, staff, and visitors are expected to respect the individual decisions made. Harassment, intimidation, and bullying of anyone for their personal health choices will not be tolerated.

In addition, the following protocols will be implemented **as of March 7th**:

- Students who test positive must isolate themselves for at least 5 full days. Day zero is the day symptoms began or the day of the viral test specimen collection (for individuals with no COVID-19 symptoms). The student may return to school on day six and must be fever-free without fever-reducing medication for at least 24-hours and symptom free.
- The district **will no longer be quarantining students** that are close contacts of known positive cases. Parents will be notified if a positive case has occurred within their child's class and asked to self-monitor their child(ren). Designated close contacts shall monitor for COVID-19 symptoms daily and shall not report for school should symptoms be present. Although quarantining will not be required from the school, parents may voluntarily self-quarantine their students from school.
- Any student who presents with COVID-compatible symptoms in school will be sent home at the discretion of the School Nurse.

Mask wearing will be required to be worn in the school under the following conditions:

- a. When students or staff become ill with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 while in school;
- b. During periods of elevated community transmission as dictated by the state and regional COVID Activity Level Index ([CALI score](#)).

It is essential to keep symptomatic students and siblings home; please contact the School Nurse with the onset of any symptoms or notification of a positive case. We will continue to monitor the COVID rates and amend these protocols if needed. Thank you and have a great day.

Dave Astor