

SOMERS POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

121 West New York Avenue
Somers Point, New Jersey 08244

Phone: (609) 927-2053 ~ **Fax:** (609) 927-7351 ~

www.sptsd.org



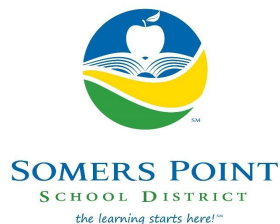
Michelle CarneyRay-Yoder, Ed.D., Superintendent Ext: 3211
Michele Roemer, Ed.D., Interim Business Administrator/ Board Secretary Ext: 3220

October 20, 2020

Dear Somers Point Families:

Please be aware that the Department of Health released new information that the southeast region on the regional risk matrix, which includes Atlantic County, is **no longer listed as Low Risk and is now listed in the Moderate category.** This update includes an adjustment to the response guidelines provided by the New Jersey Department Of Health. In an effort to keep open lines of communication with our families, the following is a detailed chart for responses to COVID-19 illness. It is a reference to use when making determinations for the exclusion of staff, students, and close contacts.

Scenario or Situation	Guidelines Response
COVID-19 positive	Stay home until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset, 72 hours have passed without the use of fever-reducing medication and symptoms have improved. Persons who test positive for COVID-19 but are asymptomatic, should stay home for 10 days from the positive test result.
COVID-19 symptoms BUT not tested for COVID-19 and no alternate diagnosis	Stay home until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset, 72 hours have passed without the use of fever-reducing medication and symptoms have improved.
COVID-19 symptoms AND a negative COVID-19 test	Stay home until 72 hours have passed without the use of fever-reducing medication and symptoms improve.
COVID-19 symptoms BUT with alternate diagnosis from a healthcare provider	Exclusion is based on the NJ DOE school exclusion list. The school nurse should be contacted for more information.
Close contact of a COVID-19 positive case	Close contacts (within 6 feet for more than 10 minutes) of persons who test positive for COVID-19 are excluded through 14 days from the last contact.



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We encourage parents and students to continue following the [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#) promoted safeguards, such as:

- Staying home when you are sick;
- Washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils;
- Practicing social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart);
- Wearing a face covering while in school;
- Continuing to monitor your health for symptoms.

A few other important reminders as well:

- Please remember to complete the “Daily Health Screening” feature in the OnCourse portal for parents
- Students who do not have a completed “Daily Health Screening” will be screened at the door prior to entry.
- If your child travels to an area of [high community transmission](#), you should contact the school nurse. Students will be required to remain home for 14 days from the date of return to New Jersey.
- It is important to communicate information related to your child’s wellness with the school. Please notify your child’s school nurse only if they live with or have had close contact (less than 6 feet; longer than 10 minutes), with someone who is Covid-19 positive. Do not report to school. You will be contacted by the School Nurse regarding further instructions.

Our District appreciates the community’s support and cooperation. It is important for our schools and families to continue to work together. You can assist us by remaining vigilant and sensible in your approach by following the Center for Disease Control and New Jersey Department of Health Guidelines for COVID-19. Our success depends on the commitment to best practices by our students, families and staff. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of our school nurse’s.