

North Haledon Public Schools

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Nicholas Coffaro
Superintendent of Schools

Debra Andreniuk
Business Administrator
Board Secretary

March 1, 2022

Dear North Haledon Families and Stakeholders:

As Covid-19 rates and percent positivity continue to decrease significantly and stabilize across New Jersey – even after the Omicron surge in early January – it is appropriate for our school district to choose a more typical communicable disease control model. Unless there is a New Jersey Public Health Emergency declaration, the North Haledon School District will move forward implementing new control guidelines and measures beginning on March 7, 2022.

While the state has asked districts to now “loosen” current guidelines and measures, they are asking school officials to maintain an infrastructure that will protect all staff and students regardless of any district’s choice to relax particular health and safety measures. While we may relax in one area, we will continue to be fixed in another. Still, this new “Road Forward” for our district is truly a long time coming.

Our collaboration with our Borough Health Department is (and will continue to be) on a continuum. Currently, dialog and discussion have been at the forefront of our new plan as members of our BOE, town health officials, and our school health team have spent time connecting as we share possible new procedures as the mask mandate and Governor Murphy’s public health emergency expiration date of March 7, 2022 closes in. Soon, I will reach out to our community as to our new plan of action. But first, we will need all families to cooperate...

It has been brought to my attention that we not only have students reporting to school either sick (common cold) or exhibiting signs and symptoms (cough, sore throat), but when our school nurses contact home for pick-up, there have been delays (hours, I am hearing). This is not good. While extenuating circumstances can arise and delay pick-up, we need a timely response from home so that both the individual that is sick and those around the student (supervisory capacity) do not have their health worsen or compromised. Also, these students do need to be supervised and this action occurring over a long period of time, can compromise other areas of our schools as well.

We are excited about the possibility of relaxing some procedures and processes on March 7, 2022, but – again – we will need the full cooperation of all. Yes, we have had many challenges as our frustration levels have been on high for almost two full years. There is daylight ahead now, and I do not want to see this window close abruptly. Once we implement our new plan, let’s stay the course... please.

Thank you,

Nicholas S. Coffaro

Superintendent of Schools