

Parent Update

January 23, 2022

(*Traducción al español a continuación*)

Dear Dobbs Ferry Parents and Community,

These are busy times in our Dobbs Ferry Schools and we are excited to be moving along through the school year. Our Springhurst Assistant Principal, Ray Cavallo has retired and Karen LaPorte has been approved by the BOE to serve as a Teacher on Assignment to assume many of Mr. Cavallo's duties until a new Assistant Principal is hired. We hope to have this position filled sometime in February but know we are in capable hands with Mrs. LaPorte for the time being.

COVID-19 Update

We continue to maintain a downward trend with our COVID numbers overall. Since our last correspondence our numbers are as follows:

Springhurst

11 students positive
0 staff

Middle School

2 students positive
2 staff positive

High School

6 students positive
4 staff positive

Changes to Quarantine Requirements

The NYSDOH has changed its definition of "fully vaccinated" to include a booster shot for individuals aged 12 and older, when eligible. **As a result, if an individual aged 12 or older has not received a booster shot and is determined to be a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case, there are new quarantine requirements that will affect them.**

Please refer to the chart below, to understand the impacts on our school community members:

	Under age 2 years or unable to wear a well-fitting mask	Age 2 – 4 years	Age 5 - 11 years		Age 12 years - Adults				All ages Tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months (regardless of vaccination status)
			Fully Vaccinated	Not yet Fully Vaccinated	Fully Vaccinated and Boosted	Fully Vaccinated, not yet eligible for booster	Fully Vaccinated, eligible for booster but not yet boosted	Not yet Fully Vaccinated	
Quarantine Duration	10 days (masks not recommended for children under age 2)	5 days	No	5 days	No	No	5 days	5 days	No
Attend or work at school, including travel to/from school (e.g., on bus)	N/A	No, unless in Test-to-Stay in pre-K. ² No extra-curriculars.	Yes	No, unless in Test-to-Stay. No extra-curriculars.	Yes	Yes	Yes. Testing encouraged. Participate in Test-to-Stay at school if available. No extra-curriculars.	No, unless in Test-to-Stay. No extra-curriculars.	Yes
Testing	Test whichever comes 1 st : at least 5 days after last exposure (testing recommended but optional if unable to test) or if Symptoms develop If positive, isolate for at least 5 days from symptom onset or (if no symptoms) date test was collected							No test needed. Test if Symptoms develop.	

In summary, the above graphic indicates the following:

- Individuals who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 - including the booster shot - will not have to quarantine if they are identified as a close contact to a COVID-positive individual.
- Individuals who are eligible for a booster shot (those aged 12 and older), but have not received the booster dose, will have to quarantine for 5 days. However, these individuals can participate in the Test to Stay (TTS) program in order to attend school/report to work in a school. In this scenario, students cannot participate in after-school or extracurricular activities, including athletics.
- Individuals who have not received any doses of a COVID-19 vaccine will be required to quarantine for 5 days. To attend school/report to work, individuals may participate in the TTS program.

Parents with children involved in athletics and extracurricular activities should pay special attention to the information related to vaccinations and booster shots as this directly impacts a student's ability to participate if they have been exposed to a COVID-positive individual.

Without the booster shot, even if they are participating in TTS in order to attend school, students still would not be permitted to participate in athletics and extracurriculars until they have completed the 5-day quarantine.

Test to Stay (TTS)

Students and staff may participate in our TTS program in order to continue to attend school following exposure to COVID-19. Our TTS program requirements include three negative rapid tests over five days with the proof being shared each morning with our Covid Coordinator, Andrew Klaich. Parents can communicate with Mr. Klaich directly at klaicha@dfsdf.org.

Surveillance Testing

Beginning on Wednesday, January 26th, we will test 30% of students and staff in the surveillance testing pool (instead of 20%) until Omicron Variant numbers are down significantly in New York State and Westchester County. Parents can opt their children into this free program at any time.

Vaccinations

We continue to strongly encourage parents to have their children vaccinated and boosted. We hope to have some information this week from Westchester County about setting up a clinic in our Dobbs Ferry Schools. This is proving to be more complicated than originally thought and parents should seek vaccinations and boosters for their children wherever possible. Information about vaccinations in Westchester County can be found [here](#).

We continue to rely on your partnership and support in keeping our children safe and in school. Please pay special attention to changing guidance related to [effective masking](#). By working together we have managed to weather these challenging times. Let's stay focused on our shared hope of better days ahead in this New Year.

Sincerely,

Lisa Brady, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Actualización de Padres 23 de enero

Queridos Padres y la Comunidad de Dobbs Ferry,

Estos son tiempos ocupados en nuestras escuelas de Dobbs Ferry y estamos excitados de pasar por este año escolar. Nuestro Subdirector de Springhurst, Ray Cavallo ha retirado y Karen LaPorte ha sido aprobado por la Junta de Educación para ser como Profesora en Tarea y asumir las responsabilidades del señor Ray Cavallo hasta que se contrate a un nuevo Subdirector. Esperamos tener este puesto ocupado en algún momento en febrero pero sabemos que mientras estamos en manos capaces de la sra LaPorte.

Actualización de COVID-19

Generalmente, seguimos manteniendo una tendencia a la baja con los números de COVID-19
Desde nuestra última correspondencia nuestros números son:

Springhurst

11 estudiantes positivos
0 de la facultad

La Intermedia

2 estudiantes positivos
2 miembros positivos de la facultad

El Colegio

6 estudiantes positivos
4 miembros positivos de la facultad

Cambios a los Requisitos de Cuarentena

El Departamento de Salud del Estado de Nueva York (NYSDOH) ha cambiado su definición de (totalmente vacunado)para incluir una inyección de “booster” para los individuos de 12 años y mayores cuando sea elegible. **Como resultado, si un individuo de 12 años o más no ha recibido esta inyección de “booster” y es determinado ser un contacto cercano de un individuo de un caso confirmado de COVID-19, hay nuevos requisitos que van a afectarlos.**

Favor de referir al gráfico a continuación, para comprender los impactos en los miembros de la comunidad escolar:

	Underage 2 years or unable to wear a well-fitting mask	Age 2 – 4 years	Age 5 - 11 years		Age 12 years - Adults				All ages
			Fully Vaccinated	Not yet Fully Vaccinated	Fully Vaccinated and Boosted	Fully Vaccinated, not yet eligible for booster	Fully Vaccinated, eligible for booster but not yet boosted	Not yet Fully Vaccinated	Tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months (regardless of vaccination status)
Quarantine Duration	10 days (masks not recommended for children under age 2)	5 days	No	5 days	No	No	5 days	5 days	No
Attend or work at school, including travel to/from school (e.g., on bus)	N/A	No, unless in Test-to-Stay in pre-K. ² No extra-curriculars.	Yes	No, unless in Test-to-Stay. No extra-curriculars.	Yes	Yes Testing encouraged. Participate in Test-to-Stay at school if available. No extra-curriculars.	Yes Testing encouraged. Participate in Test-to-Stay at school if available. No extra-curriculars.	No, unless in Test-to-Stay. No extra-curriculars.	Yes
Testing	Test whichever comes 1 st : at least 5 days after last exposure (testing recommended but optional if unable to test) or if Symptoms develop If positive, isolate for at least 5 days from symptom onset or (if no symptoms) date test was collected							No test needed. Test if Symptoms develop.	

En resumen, el gráfico de arriba indica lo siguiente:

- Los individuos totalmente vacunados para COVID-19, incluso “la booster” - no tendrán que estar en cuarentena si se identifican como contacto cercano a un individuo positivo de COVID-19.
- Individuos que son elegibles para una “booster”(los de 12 y mayores), pero no han recibido la dosis de “booster” tendrán que estar en cuarentena por 5 días. Sin embargo, estos individuos pueden participar en el programa de La Prueba Para Quedarse (TTS) para asistir a la escuela o actividades extracurriculares, incluso el atletismo.
- Individuos que no han recibido algunas dosis de la vacuna de COVID-19 tendrán que estar en cuarentena por 5 días. Para asistir a la escuela o reportarse a trabajo, los individuos pueden participar en el programa de TTS.

Los padres con hijos envueltos en atletismo y actividades extracurriculares deben prestar atención a la información relacionada a las vacunaciones y las inyecciones de “booster” como esto directamente impacta la habilidad del estudiante para participar si ha estado expuesto a un individuo positivo con COVID 19.

Sin una “booster,” aunque se permitan participar en TTS para asistir a la escuela, todavía los estudiantes no se les permitirían participar en atletismo y extracurriculares hasta que completen los 5 días de cuarentena.

Prueba Para Quedarse (TTS)

Los estudiantes y la facultad pueden participar en nuestro programa de TTS para seguir asistiendo a la escuela después de la exposición al COVID-19. Los requisitos de nuestro programa de TTS incluyen tres rápidas pruebas negativas por cinco días con la prueba compartida cada mañana con nuestro Coordinador de COVID, Andrew Klaich. Los padres pueden comunicarse con el sr. Klaich directamente en klaicha@dfsd.org.

Pruebas de Vigilancia

Comenzando el miércoles, 26 de enero, probaremos 30% de los estudiantes y la facultad en las pruebas de vigilancia (en vez de 20%) hasta que los números de la Variante de Omicron bajen significativamente en el estado de Nueva York y en el Condado de Westchester.

Vacunaciones

Seguimos animando a los padres fuertemente a vacunar a sus hijos y también la inyección de “booster.” Esperamos tener alguna información esta semana sobre establecer una clínica en las escuelas de Dobbs Ferry. Esto es más complicado de lo que pensamos originalmente y los

padres deben buscar vacunaciones y “boosters” para sus hijos donde sea posible. Información sobre vacunaciones en el Condado de Westchester se pueden encontrar aquí, [here](#).

Seguimos contando con su asociación y su apoyo en mantener a los niños seguros y en nuestras escuelas. Favor de prestar atención especial a la orientación cambiante relacionada a llevar las mascarillas efectivamente, [effective masking](#). Trabajando juntos nosotros hemos logrado encontrar estos tiempos difíciles.

Vamos a concentrarnos en la esperanza compartida de mejores días que vienen en este Nuevo Año.

Sinceramente,

Lisa Brady, Ed.D.
Superintendente