
2021/2022 North Wildwood School District

Covid Mitigation Procedures

All updates to the plan will be reviewed by:

1. Board of Education
2. Margaret Mace School Nurse
3. Cape May County Education Office
4. Cape May County Board of Health

NJ COVID-19 Guidelines:

All students will be back for full-time, in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year.

All students will be expected to return to school for 5 days a week in-person learning.

Virtual learning will only be offered to students on COVID-19 quarantine.

Quarantine: Close contact or COVID-19 positive students.

Communication:

Margaret Mace School officials and local health departments will maintain close communication with each other to provide information and share resources on COVID-19 transmission, prevention, and control measures and communicate with the Cape May County Department of Health regarding notification and response to COVID-19 illness in school settings.

The Margaret Mace School will communicate the Covid exposure in classrooms with parents via the school nurse. A letter will follow all case of exposure to COVID-19.

A COVID-19 Dashboard will be on the school's web page www.mmace.com with an ongoing tally of exposures and positive cases of COVID during the 2021/2022 school year. This dashboard will not contain any personal information.

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Vaccination:

New Jersey has not mandated vaccines for school staff and students ages 12 and up. The school will make every effort to determine the vaccination status of staff and eligible students. Vaccination status changes the amount of quarantine time if a close contact occurs.

The district will implement a policy to collect vaccination status of staff. This information will be used to determine the appropriate amount of quarantine in case of exposure.

Masking:

As of March 7, 2022, the state mandate requiring in school universal masking will be expired. Individuals (including parents/guardians) need to make masking decisions based on their specific situation (i.e., if they or their family members are immunocompromised or at high risk of severe illness from Covid-19).

- **During an active outbreak-** During an active outbreak or a general increase in cases, The Margaret Mace School will consult with their LHD as to whether short-term universal masking or masking in affected classrooms should be required to control the outbreak/increase in cases.
- **After returning from isolation-**students and staff who return to school during days 6-10 of isolation or quarantine should be required to wear a mask.
- **When illness occurs in school** – students or staff who become ill with symptoms consistent with COVID -19 while in school should wear a mask until they leave the premises.

In general, students or staff do not need to wear masks outdoors, including during outdoor physical education classes or school sports **except** during days 6-10 after completing a 5-day isolation.

Social Distancing:

Social distancing must not prevent a school from offering full-day, full-time, in-person learning. It is recommended to maintain 3 feet of distance between students in the classroom setting.

Students at MMS will be social distanced in the classroom by a minimum of 3 feet.

Lunch:

NJ COVID-19 Guidelines: Meals offered in the cafeteria, where masks cannot be worn, schools should consider implementing other layered prevention strategies to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

In the cafeteria, when student cannot be socially distanced 6 feet, additional tables will be added to the cafeteria to allow for additional social distancing.

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Screening:

NJ COVID-19 Guidelines:

Parents/ caregivers should be strongly encouraged to monitor their children for signs of illness every day before school.

Margaret Mace will rely on parents to monitor their children prior to school. Each family will receive a Symptoms Protocol to use as a reference. Parents are asked to notify our school nurse if their child will be staying home and why.

During homeroom, teachers will monitor students for any visible symptoms.

Temperature of students will no longer be taken based on the recommendation from the CMC Department of Health. Lack of a temperatures above 100.5 is not a significant indicator of the absence of COVID. Screening for temperatures creates an additional interaction between staff and students.

Attendance: Students who are home during and period of quarantine or isolation will be considered “Absent Excused”. Families who choose to keep student home between day 6 and 10 rather than masking in school will be considered “Absent Excused”

Contact Tracing and Quantitating:

NJ COVID-19 Guidelines:

Close contact is someone within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

In the K-12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) were correctly and consistently wearing their well-fitting masks the entire time.

This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.

Fully vaccinated students and staff do not need to quarantine if they have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 as long as they have zero symptoms.

Contact tracing will take for students for are exposed to COVID during the 2021/2022 school year.

Student who are exposed but are symptom free will not need to quarantine after March 7, 2022. Parents will be informed of exposure and asked to monitor students for COVID like symptoms.

COVID Positive Staff or Students:

5 days without testing and no symptoms, masking required on days 6-10

Or

5 days after a negative test (test needs to occur between days 3-5)

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Travel Restrictions:

Traveling: Full Vaccinated: Within the US you do not need to quarantine or test before or after travel. Internationally you should follow the destinations recommendation and upon return to US test between day 3-5-no quarantine necessary.

Unvaccinated Travelers: Defer travel until fully vaccinated. Stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel, even if the post-travel test is negative. Test between day 3-5. If not tested after travel, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.

Travelers recovered from Covid last 3 months: no quarantine or return testing needed

Cleaning:

Due to the ongoing pandemic the Margaret Mace custodial staff will focus on three main priorities to provide our community with clean, safe and healthy schools.

Summer Cleaning: Each summer the custodial staff provides restorative cleaning and maintenance in order to prepare for the upcoming school year. This summer we will be providing summer cleaning while simultaneously maintaining safe working conditions as recommended by the CDC. Staff will practice social distancing and wear masks.

Interim disinfection: Disinfecting and sanitizing of high touch areas during work hours to maintain a safe environment and help reduce the spread of potential contaminants. This process will begin when students and staff return to school.

Comprehensive Daily Cleaning and disinfection: Deeper comprehensive cleaning and disinfection to be completed during off hours to further reduce potential spread of any bacterial and viral pathogens. Any classroom which had a positive student or staff member will be deep cleaned during the evening hours with approved sanitizers.

Schedule Overview:

Students will follow a pre-pandemic schedule at Margaret Mace. Students will change classes and will use lockers in grades 4-8.

All extra and co-curricular activities will continue as long as the school remains open.

School classroom closure/ individual student quarantining:

If small groups of students are excluded from attending Margaret Mace School while the school remains open for in-person instruction, MMS will offer those students remote instruction in a manner commensurate with the in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible. This education will begin on day two of the quarantine period and will extend until the end of the quarantine period. Instruction will be provided in a synchronous and asynchronous manner using Google Classroom, Google Meet and other technology-based programs.

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For students will lack internet connection in the home, hotspots will be provided.

If the entire school closes due to a COVID outbreak, weather event or other unforeseen occurrence those days will be add to the school calendar.

Visitors: There will be restrictions on school visitors. During periods of increased Covid-19 transmission, CALI score of Orange or Red, visitor restrictions may be implemented. During a period of CALI score of Yellow or Green visitors will follow pre-pandemic guidelines.

If the school is closed three consecutive days, the school can begin virtual instruction on the fourth day for all students after consulting with the Cape May County Department of Health and the Cape May County Department of Education.

Transportation:

Mask will be worn by all passengers on buses.

Maximum physical distance will take place between students

Windows should be open to increase airflow when possible.

This section was updated January 2022

Continuation of Health Services, including food services.

The North Wildwood District will be open for in-person learning five days a week during a typical week of school. Students who test positive for or are exposed to COVID-19 will be required to quarantine according to the CDC and NJDOH guidelines. While students are removed from in-person instruction, they will have access to social-emotional and mental health staff through Google Meet. This includes access to the school's guidance counselor and school psychologist. These students will have the ability to communicate with the school nurse for health services. Breakfast and lunch will be provided for all students at the Margaret Mace School as a grade-and-go style prepackaged meal.

Engaging Stakeholders

As this plan was developed, a draft was established, and a stakeholders meeting took place. This was an in-person and virtual meeting. Comments were logged. Following the meeting, appropriate adjustments were made, and a draft copy was presented at the Board of Education meeting, allowing for public comment. Following public comments, the plan was approved by the full North Wildwood Board of Education.

Staff Development

Professional Learning took place for staff in Google Classroom and Google Meet and how these tools can be used to improve instruction. Staff was also provided with professional learning opportunities to engage students using a virtual platform.

This plan was written in understandable language and was presented to the public. The plan will be converted to the family's home language upon request. Upon request, families can have the
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plan converted to an alternative format. If needed, families can have this plan converted to an oral presentation.

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