

Montgomery Township School District

Creating confident, compassionate, and successful learners

August 12, 2021

Dear Montgomery Township School District:

We hope that you and your loved ones are safe, healthy, and enjoying summer activities. We are excited to welcome our students back to full day in-person instruction starting on September 9, 2021. We would like to share information with all of you about how continued COVID-19 mitigation efforts will support a successful 2021-2022 academic year. With the ultimate goal of ensuring our students experience a 2021-2022 school year that meets both their educational and social and emotional needs, while also prioritizing their health and safety as well as that of our educators, we want to share with you the most recent information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), the Montgomery Township Department of Health (MTDOH) and our school physician. Below, you will find a summary of actions we are taking to help ensure we are lowering COVID-19 risk as much as possible.

Daily Screening Forms

- Completion of Daily COVID-19 Symptoms Screening form will be required for each student through the Parent Portal in Genesis.

Masking and Social Distancing

- [Per Executive Order 251](#), masks will be required for all students, staff, and visitors (vaccinated and unvaccinated unless pre-approved for a medical exemption).
- To the extent possible, the district will maintain three feet of distance between students.

Contact Tracing & Quarantining

- Current guidelines for contact tracing define a close contact as someone who was within three feet (when masked) and within six feet (when unmasked) of a COVID-19 positive individual for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
- A student's vaccination status may impact the need for quarantining.

Transportation

- All students are required to wear masks on buses.
- Buses will be sanitized twice daily.
- Windows and roof hatches will be open slightly to allow flow of fresh air.
- Social distancing of 3 ft will not be maintained on school buses, however students will have assigned seating with seating charts provided to each building for contact tracing purposes and to limit exposures.

Lunch room and snack

- Students will be unmasked while eating.

- Students location will be identified in the lunch room either through a seating chart or QR code for purposes of contact tracing.
- 6ft of distance will not be achieved in many cases during lunch.

Athletics

- Masks will be required of all athletes except when they are actively participating in their sport during practices and games.
- We are excited to welcome spectators back to our athletic events. Out of an abundance of safety and respect for our student athletes, in order to mitigate the spread of COVID19, masks are recommended for all spectators while on the Montgomery High School campus. MTSD student spectators are required to wear masks at all times.
- If an athlete, regardless of vaccination status, is symptomatic he/she needs to stay home until cleared by a district health professional.

Music Classes

- During band classes, while playing a brass or woodwind instrument, masks will be pulled down around the chin to make room for the mouthpiece. Brass and woodwind instruments will be masked with a Merv-13 rated bell cover. As such, all exhaled air will be filtered by a mask or a bell-cover.
- During choir classes, all students will remain masked at all times, including while singing.
- During general music classes, all students will remain masked at all times, including while singing.
- During orchestra classes, all students will remain masked at all times.

Travel Guidelines Per the CDC

As we approach the first day of school on September 9th, please be aware of these guidelines from the CDC to help ensure your child is able to participate in the first day of school:

- Individuals traveling outside of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware are required:

Fully Vaccinated Travelers:

International travel:

- Get tested 3-5 days after returning to the United States
- Do not need to quarantine
- Self- monitor for symptoms

Domestic travel:

- Traveling outside of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware
- Do not need to quarantine or test before or after travel
- Self-monitor for symptoms

Unvaccinated Travelers:

International travel:

- Get tested 3-5 days after travel
- Stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel, even if the post-travel test is negative.

- If not tested after travel, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.

Domestic travel:

- Traveling outside of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware
- Get tested 3-5 days after travel
- Stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel, even if the post-travel test is negative.
- If not tested after travel, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.

For additional information, please visit:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html>
- <https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/travel-and-transportation/are-there-travel-restrictions-to-or-from-new-jersey>

We will continue to provide updates leading up to the opening of school on Thursday, September 9, 2021.

Sincerely,
Mary E. McLoughlin
Superintendent