



Public Schools of Plainfield New Jersey

Office of Community Engagement

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PLAINFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS COVID-19 POLICY WILL CONTINUE TO REQUIRE THE USE OF MASKS UNTIL THE COUNTY IS AT "GREEN LEVEL"

"Green Level" indicates there is a low COVID-19 transmission according to COVID risk levels

Plainfield, N.J. - February 7, 2021 - Plainfield Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Diana Mitchell said today the District will continue to follow the guidance from the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) on COVID-19 mitigation and masks will continue to be required according to Plainfield Board of Education policy.

"The Plainfield Board of Education revised the District's face-covering policy to be tied with levels of COVID-19 spread in the community," said Dr. Mitchell. "Our mask policy requires that all staff and students wear a mask in schools and office buildings; until Union County is in the "Green Level" which indicates we are in a low COVID-19 transmission."

Mask-wearing has been identified as an effective strategy for protection against COVID-19. Wearing a mask in school is currently recommended by the NJDOH and mandated by the Governor's Executive Order No. 253 said Dr. Mitchell.

Dr. Mitchell acknowledged Governor Murphy's announcement that the statewide mask mandate in schools will be lifted on March 7, 2022.

In a letter to parents today, she added that the guidance on COVID-19 mitigation continues to change as we continue to learn more about the virus. For example, she said, taking temperatures is no longer listed as a reliable predictor of COVID-19 for use by schools, and as a result, the thermometers that were initially placed at the entrances of schools and District buildings, have been moved to the nurses' offices, and taking temperatures are no longer required to enter school/buildings.

Dr. Mitchell said research shows that being vaccinated and boosted is the best way to stop the spread of COVID-19 in the community and to stay healthy. She said the District is proud to have 93% of the staff fully vaccinated.

Additionally, Dr. Mitchell encouraged all parents to take advantage of the free vaccination efforts in the City of Plainfield and included a list of resources in the City of Plainfield where parents and their children may access free COVID vaccines and testing.

For more information, please call 908-731-4333 or email gmontealegre@plainfield.k12.nj.us

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