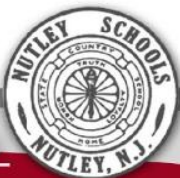


Back to School 2020-2021

Mr. Charlie Kucinski, President, Nutley Board of Education
Dr. Julie Glazer, Superintendent
December 21, 2020

A snapshot of data related to COVID 19 in New Jersey, Essex County,
Nutley and the Nutley Public Schools





Township of Nutley
Department of Public Affairs
149 Chestnut Street Nutley, New Jersey 07110-2300
PHONE: (973) 284-4976

SUSAN B. PORTUESE
Health Officer

THOMAS A. RESTAINO
Public Health Coordinator

Dear School Superintendents of Nutley Based K-12 Schools:

Based on review of the *COVID-19 Weekly Activity Report for week ending November 14, 2020 the vast majority of the state have a COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI) Score of 3 moving the activity level of our region to high and the statewide activity level to high. This comes as no surprise.

While in high risk, schools should consider implementing fully remote learning. As the holiday season is upon us so is the risk for large family gatherings, leniency of social distancing and wearing of masks leading to a potentially higher COVID-19 activity level.

If schools remain open for in-person learning they should:

Follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria for staff or students who are COVID-19 positive or who have COVID-19 compatible symptoms and are not yet tested.

LHDs and schools should work together to identify and exclude close contacts according to CDC guidance, including close contacts of someone with COVID-19 compatible symptoms who are not yet tested.

Refer to guidance on cleaning and disinfection on **page 7-8.

Decisions on when an ill person's close contacts can return to school are dependent on the ill person's medical evaluation and COVID-19 test results. Refer to the COVID-19 Exclusion Table on page 13.

Restrict activities that involve interaction with multiple cohorts.

This letter is drafted in consultation with our Health Officer and is based on current NJDOH guidance. The Nutley Health Department remains available as needed.

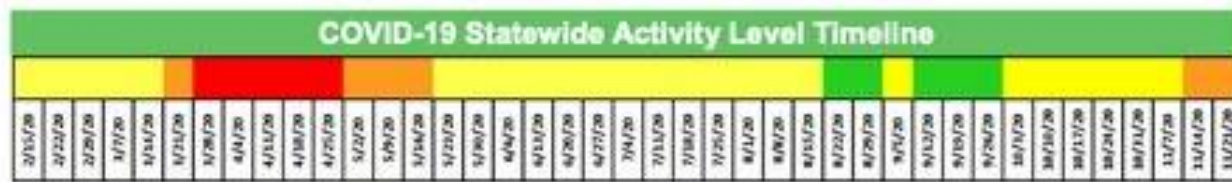
Sincerely,

Patricia L. Cruz, RN BSN
Public Health Nursing Supervisor



Schools in all 21 N.J. counties should now ‘consider implementing fully remote learning,’ state guidelines say

All of New Jersey's counties have moved from yellow to orange on the state's COVID-19 Activity Level Report. That means more changes in some school guidelines.



■ Low
 ■ Moderate
 ■ High
 ■ Very High



Region ²	Current Activity Level
Northwest	HIGH
Northeast	HIGH
Central West	HIGH
Central East	HIGH
Southwest	HIGH
Southeast	HIGH
STATEWIDE	HIGH



Orange Activity Level

- Rules about what to do if a teacher or student gets sick change when the region moves to orange. While schools in yellow regions are told to close schools or ask students and teachers to quarantine if someone tests positive for COVID-19, schools in orange zones should close or quarantine even if someone has only “COVID-19 compatible symptoms” like a cough or a fever and has not been tested, according to the guidelines.
- Schools in orange regions must also begin to “restrict activities” in which students from different classes might come into contact, the guidelines say.



Essex County Red Activity Level

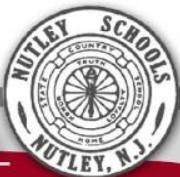
- The designation means the daily new COVID-19 virus case rate, per 100,000 people, rose to "very high," exceeding 25 cases per 1,000 people.
- Essex County reported 40,110 cumulative cases on Friday, December 11, an increase of 3,010 over the previous week. The county reported 2,058 cumulative deaths linked to COVID-19, an increase of 36 over the previous week.
- Essex County reported 43,038 cumulative cases on Friday, December 18, an increase of 2,928 over the previous week. The county reported 2,081 cumulative deaths linked to COVID-19, an increase of 23 over the previous week.

-



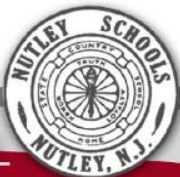
Essex County Red Activity Level

- The Township of Nutley announced 145 additional cases since the last announcement on 12/4/2020, bringing the cumulative by total to 1,330 cases and 39 deaths.
- The Township of Nutley announced 123 additional cases and 1 death since the last announcement on 12/11/2020, bringing the cumulative by total to 1,453 cases and 40 deaths.
- 44 new cases and 2 additional deaths were reported today.



The overall coronavirus risk rose to "high" because:

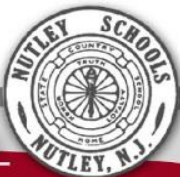
- The new daily case rate in each of the counties rose to 10 or more per 100,000 people.
- The percent of COVID-19-like illnesses rose above 5.52 in each of the counties.
- The percent of positive cases rose above 10.05
- The transmission rate remains above 1.0 which indicates the outbreak is expanding.



School Update:

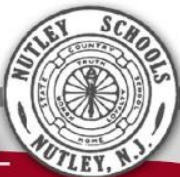
December 21, 2020

- 82 open for in-person instruction
- 362 offering hybrid Instruction
- 320 offering all remote learning
- 47 districts offering a mix of all-remote, in-person, or hybrid learning



Schools

- In New Jersey, almost 18,000 school-aged children ages 5 to 17 have contracted COVID-19 since the start of March, making up 6.5% of all cases – but only 428 are known to have caught the virus at school, state data shows. Those age 30-49 make up the largest percentage with 31.6% of cases followed by those age 50-64 making up 24% of those who have caught the virus. While that is almost 56% statewide, those ages represent 79% of our staff.
- More than 98 outbreaks (two or more cases that occur as a result of contact at a school.)



COVID-19 Regional Risk Matrix

**For use by LHDs when providing guidance to school districts*

Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	Very High Risk
<p>Evaluate alternatives to in-person learning to ensure continuity of work or educational services.</p> <p>In response to a COVID-19 case among staff or students, follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; work with local health department to identify and exclude close contacts following CDC guidance; refer to guidance on cleaning and disinfection.</p> <p>In response to ill students and staff, follow NJDOH School Exclusion List.</p> <p>* If ill person had potential exposure in past 14 days, follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; wait at least 24 hours and clean/disinfect areas where ill person spent time.</p> <p>Permit limited activities involving interaction with multiple cohorts, ensuring adherence to precautions.</p>	<p>Consider a mixture of remote and/or hybrid learning approaches, and/or fully remote learning.</p> <p>In response to a COVID-19 case among staff or students, follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; work with local health department to identify and exclude close contacts following CDC guidance; refer to guidance on cleaning and disinfection.</p> <p>In response to ill students and staff with COVID-19 compatible symptoms, follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; wait at least 24 hours and clean/disinfect areas where ill person spent time.</p> <p>Minimize activities that involve interaction with multiple cohorts.</p>	<p>Consider implementing fully remote learning.</p> <p>If schools remain open for in-person learning:</p> <p>In response to staff or student who is a COVID-19 case or who has COVID-19 compatible symptoms (not yet tested), follow COVID-19 exclusion criteria; work with local health department to identify and exclude close contacts according to CDC guidance; refer to guidance on cleaning and disinfection.</p> <p>* Decisions on when ill person's close contacts can return to school are dependent on the ill person's medical evaluation and COVID-19 test results.</p> <p>Restrict activities that involve interaction with multiple cohorts.</p>	<p>Implement fully remote learning</p>
<p>RISK LEVELS GREEN, YELLOW, AND ORANGE (IF OPEN FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING):</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require staff and students to stay home when sick or if they have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19 within the past 14 days. If someone in their household is being tested for COVID-19 due to illness, students/staff should also stay home until the test result is received. Parents/guardians, students and staff should notify school administrators of illness and known exposure. Have a policy for daily symptom screening for students and staff; have plans for students and staff to report symptoms that develop during the day. In conjunction with local health department, identify COVID-19 rapid testing resources (viral testing) for when staff and students develop COVID-19 compatible symptoms. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily. Ensure adequate hand hygiene supplies are readily available. Implement physical distancing measures (e.g., reducing occupancy (staggered schedules, use of alternate spaces), installation of partitions/physical barriers, cancelling large gatherings/events, maintaining defined cohorts). Implement source control through wearing masks. 			
<p>ALL RISK LEVELS</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep abreast of NJDOE and NJDOH COVID-19 guidance and surveillance indicators. Exchange after-hours contact information with your local health department. 			



Today



February 2021



Month



MON Feb 1	TUE 2	WED 3	THU 4	FRI 5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

First Day of Black History Month

Mid-Winter Break

Presidents' Day (regional holiday)



Today



January 2021



Month ▾



MON 28	TUE 29	WED 30	THU 31	FRI Jan 1
			New Year's Eve	New Year's Day
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29



COVID-19 Vaccines Have Arrived in New Jersey



Vaccines began arriving in New Jersey hospitals last week and the first COVID-19 vaccinations were administered to frontline healthcare workers on Tuesday, December 15th. In the first phase of vaccine distribution, healthcare workers, and long-term care facility residents and staff will be the top priority for vaccinations. Educators have been identified for the next round of the vaccine (Tier 1B) currently scheduled to begin in January.



“To every American: This is the moment to protect yourself and your family”

– Dr. Deborah Birx, White House Coronavirus Task Force, Nov 29, 2020

Stay at home as much as possible, wear a mask outside your home, socially distance, and avoid any gatherings.

