

## Ramapo COVID-19 Closure

1 message

Ramapo Indian Hills High School <noreply@rih.org> Reply-To: Ramapo Indian Hills High School <noreply@rih.org> Tue, Mar 23, 2021 at 3:01 PM



# Ramapo Indian Hills Regional H.S. District

### Ramapo COVID-19 Closure

March 23, 2021

### Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter is to inform you that Ramapo High School has received information regarding positive COVID-19 cases involving a number of individuals. These COVID-19 cases over the last two weeks have necessitated placing a large number of our in-person students and teaching staff, including substitute teachers in quarantine. The Bergen County Department of Health Services has recommended a 10-day closure due to the high levels of viral transmission in both our in-person and virtual school community, and because our COVID-19 cases involved symptomatic and infectious individuals who were present in the instructional environment within days of each other.

As such, Ramapo High School will switch back to virtual instruction tomorrow, March 24th and return to in-person instruction after our spring break on Monday, April 12th. We will continue to follow the published schedule and rotation on the District's Return to Learning page.

Our 10-day closure will commence tomorrow, and all of this afternoon and this evening's scheduled extra curricular activities can continue as planned.

Upon completion of our 10-day closure, extra curricular activities including athletics can resume on Saturday, April 3rd.

Our Pandemic Response Team has provided all known information surrounding these latest cases to the Bergen County Department of Health Services to ensure we identify anyone that may be considered a close contact of the COVID-19 positive individual. The Bergen County Department of Health Services has recommended that a number teaching staff members and a sizable number of students be directed to quarantine. The impacted individuals are in the process of being contacted by our administration and school nurses.

With that said, we will sustain ongoing communication with our local health officials and will continue to monitor public health data as COVID-19 cases are on the rise. Part of the review process includes examining the New Jersey Department of Health COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI) Weekly Reports. This weekly report provides data on transmission by six regions and classifies the risk levels into four categories: Low Risk, Moderate Risk, High Risk, and Very High Risk (Bergen County is part of the Northeast Region). As of the week ending March 20th, our region is considered at High risk.

The school is also taking precautions to prevent the introduction and spread of viruses and other germs and is cleaning frequently touched surfaces daily.

We understand the level of concern regarding COVID-19. We encourage parents and students to continue following the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention promoted safeguards, such as:

- Staying home when you are sick;
- Washing hands often with soap for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils;
- Practicing social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart);
- Wearing a face covering while in school; and
- Continuing to monitor your health for symptoms.

Additionally and equally important, please keep your child home from school if any of the following apply;

- Your child has had a known **close contact** with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the prior 10 days
- Your child has had a laboratory test for COVID-19 and the results are pending
- Your child has returned from **any U.S. state or territory** beyond the immediate region (New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Delaware)

As always, we appreciate our community's support and cooperation. You can assist us by remaining vigilant but sensible in your approach to dealing with this health concern. Should you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to contact your building administrator, your child's class administrator, or the school nurse. Below are some resources that might be helpful.

#### **RESOURCES**

- 1. NJDOH COVID-19 Information for Communities and the General Public
- 2. Get the Facts about Coronavirus
- 3. Symptoms of COVID-19
- 4. Testing
- 5. How to Protect Yourself
- 6. What to Do if You Are Sick
- 7. COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI) Weekly Reports
- 8. Options to Reduce Quarantine for Contacts of Persons with SARS-CoV-2 Infection Using Symptom Monitoring and Diagnostic Testing

Sincerely,	
Anthony Riscica, Interim Superintendent	Travis Smith, Principal
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