

**Jefferson Township High School
Return to School Plan
2021-2022**

August 20, 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students:

I want to welcome everyone again to the 2021-2022 school year. Please read the following information regarding the Jefferson Township High School back-to-school plan. As has been announced all summer, within the guidance of the Governor's Office, the Department of Education and the Department of Health, we are committed to having students here, "full day, every child, every day." Please help us do that by adhering to the information in this letter. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our school with any questions. Thank you.

Masks

As per the Governor's order, 251, (<https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-251.pdf>), all faculty, staff, students, and visitors must wear masks in schools and on school buses (Please see executive order points 1, 5, and 6 from pages 4-6 below). As the same as last year, masks must be two-ply. Gators, bandanas, and masks with vents are not permitted.

Social Distancing

The high school has reset rooms so that full classes can attend. With that, desks are spaced at their normal (non-COVID) distance away from each other. In order to lessen the chance of COVID spread/infections, all desks (whenever possible) are set up in rows, facing the same direction.

Health Screenings and Temperature Checks

There will not be temperature checks as students enter the building this year. Parents are encouraged to keep their children home if they are not feeling well and are asked to use this checklist as a guide ([Daily Health Screen Tool for Parents](#)). If students are not feeling well in school, they will be escorted to the isolation room and the school nurse will determine if the student needs to be sent home.

Quarantining and CDC Guidelines for Travel

We will be adhering to the [CDC's guidance for domestic travel](#). If students need to quarantine due to travel, they will not be permitted to attend class virtually and will be required to make up assignments upon return. Students may log into Google Classroom in order to view and complete any assignments that are posted. Students who are quarantined due travel will be marked as "Absent Unexcused."

Students who are quarantined due to a positive test or close contact **as reported to us by the local health department** will be permitted to listen and see their classes remotely. Students will not be able to participate in the class. Students may email their teachers any questions they

may have regarding the lesson. Students who are quarantined due to a positive test or close contact as reported to us by the local health department **and** who login to their class remotely, will be marked as “Present Excused.” Students who are quarantined due to a positive test or close contact as reported to us by the local health department **and who do NOT login** to their class remotely, will be marked as “Absent Excused.”

Sanitizing and Cleaning

Rooms will be thoroughly cleaned at the end of each day. There will be hand sanitizer stations in classrooms and around the school. Students are encouraged to use the hand sanitizer when they enter and leave the classroom and anytime they feel they need to. There will be sanitizing wipes in the classrooms for students to use on their desks and on any shared equipment.

Cafeterias/Lunches

All student lunches and breakfasts will once again be free of charge this year as part of a Federal Grant. Students are allowed to bring their own lunches instead. However, this year, all breakfasts and lunches must be eaten at school. They will not be available as students exit the building.

In order to distance as much as possible, we will be using four areas for lunches this year. Seniors will eat in the regular Senior Cafe. Juniors will eat in the other cafeteria. Sophomores must eat in the auxiliary (smaller) gym. Freshmen must eat in the Freedom Gym. Seniors will also have access to the Senior Courtyard for lunch.

For contact tracing purposes, after students select their seating in their assigned lunch room, seating charts will be made and students will be required to sit in the same place each day. This will not apply to seniors when they are sitting outside in the courtyard.

Scheduling

The high school will be returning to a rotating block schedule. This was explained to Freshmen during the orientation. It will be explained again during homeroom on the first day of school for all students in all grade levels.

Physical Education, Health, and Locker Rooms

Students will be taking regular physical education and health classes this year. Students are expected to change for PE class. Physical Education teachers will determine when/if students can remove their masks. This will be based on the type of activities they are doing. For example, if students are doing non-strenuous activities (walking, stretching, etc.), masks will be worn. If students are exerting themselves with exercise, teachers can provide an option for students to take off their masks. This is based on Executive Order 251.

Lockers, Locker Rooms, and Backpacks

Students will have access to their lockers this year. However, students are also permitted to carry a backpack if they do not wish to use the locker. As always, students are not permitted to use backpacks with wheels or hard bottoms.

Executive Order 251

1. All public, private, and parochial preschool programs and elementary and secondary schools, including charter and renaissance schools (collectively “school districts”), must maintain a policy regarding mandatory use of face masks by staff, students, and visitors in the indoor portion of the school district premises, except in the following circumstances:

5. No municipality, county, or any other agency or political subdivision of this State shall enact or enforce any order, rule, regulation, ordinance, or resolution which will or might in any way conflict with any of the provisions of this Order, or which will or might in any way interfere with or impede its achievement.

6. Penalties for violations of this Order may be imposed under, among other statutes, N.J.S.A. App. A:9-49 and -50.

