



South Hunterdon Regional School District

301 Mt. Airy – Harbourton Road, Lambertville, New Jersey 08530

www.shrsd.org

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January 15, 2022

Dear Parents,

On Friday morning there was a meeting held with all of the Superintendents in Hunterdon County and the County Health Department. Athletics were discussed, particularly the new Covid guidelines released by the NJ Department of Health this past week. Based on the recommendations of the County Health Department as well as our school physician, effective immediately we will be implementing the following protocols for our student athletes:

Student Athletes Who Test Positive for Covid 19

If a student athlete tests positive for Covid 19, they will be quarantined from school for a period of 5 days from the onset of their symptoms. If they are symptom free they can return back to school on day 6. For days 6-10, they will be able to be present for practice and games wearing a mask at all times however they will not be permitted to participate. In order to begin participation again in athletics, they will need their physician to complete the attached forms to be cleared to return. The completed forms should be returned to our athletic trainer Amy Somma. (amy.somma@shrsd.org)

[Graduated Return to Play Protocols](#)
[COVID 19 Physician Clearance](#)

Student Athletes Identified as a Close Contact

If a student athlete is identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for Covid 19 and are unvaccinated, they will need to be quarantined from school for a period of 5 days from the date of their exposure. If they are symptom free they can return back to school on day 6. For days 6-10, they will be able to be present for practice and games wearing a mask at all times however they will not be permitted to participate. They can return back to participation on day 11. If a student athlete is identified as a close contact, vaccinated and not experiencing any Covid symptoms, they don't need to be quarantined from school or athletics. If they do have symptoms, they should quarantine and be tested for Covid.

Why can't a student athlete identified as a close contact wear a mask and participate on days 6-10?

Based on the recommendation of the Hunterdon County Health Department and our school physician, masks can only be worn for extracurricular activities that are conducive to the mask being worn consistently and correctly. The health department and our school physician both agreed that basketball and wrestling do not qualify as sports where a mask can be worn consistently and correctly. Our only winter sport where masks can be worn consistently and correctly is bowling therefore bowlers identified as a close contact and are unvaccinated can participate starting on day 6 wearing a mask if they are symptom free.

Lambertville Public School – Wanda Quiñones, Principal	(609) 397-0183	(609) 397-4607 Fax
South Hunterdon Regional High School – Jennifer Beresh MacKnight, Principal	(609) 397-2060	(609) 397-2366 Fax
West Amwell Township Elementary School – David Miller, Principal	(609) 397-0819	(609) 397-4350 Fax

Why can't a student athlete who has been identified as a close contact take a PCR Covid test on days 5-7 and if negative return back to their sport on day 8?

The County Health Department and our school physician said this is not an option based on the new guidance however they are going to consult with the state health department for further consideration.

Please understand that our number one priority is student safety and when it comes to medical decisions we rely on the Hunterdon County Health Department and our school physician to make those decisions. To view the guidance that was recently released by the NJ Department of Health, click on this link. [Covid 19 Guidelines](#) Thank you for your continued cooperation as we all work together during the pandemic to keep our student athletes safe.

Sincerely,

Anthony Suozzo
Superintendent of Schools
South Hunterdon Regional School District