

Fall 2021 COVID Procedures

Priority Goals:

- Student and Staff Health & Safety
- Open in and sustain full in-person instruction
- Minimize staff and student absences

Considerations:

- Ensuring Access to All Students
- Support of Local Health Team
- Regional Metrics
- Availability of vaccination for all students and call for booster for those vaccinated
 - Grade Levels at Each School
- Manageable to Implement
- Number of Staff & Students indoors for extended periods of time
- Relies on Methods that have worked to prevent in school spread
- Lack of information about the Delta variant
- Allows for rollback as more information becomes available



Fall 2021 COVID Procedures

Recommendation:

- Follow the CDC Prevention Strategies & Recommendations for Masking and Distancing
- Implement Layered Mitigation

CDC recommends universal indoor masking, physical distancing to the extent possible, and additional prevention strategies to protect students, teachers, and staff. Schools should not exclude students from in-person learning to keep a minimum distance requirement; layering multiple prevention strategies is essential when physical distancing of at least 3 feet is not possible at all times.

- Monthly Conditions Report and Reevaluation (1st SC Meeting of the month)

What it Looks Like – Modified Spring 2021



Fall 2021 COVID Procedures

CDC Prevention Strategies

- [Promoting vaccination](#)
- [Consistent and correct mask use](#)
- [Physical distancing](#)
- [Screening testing to promptly identify cases, clusters, and outbreaks](#)
- [Ventilation](#)
- [Handwashing and respiratory etiquette](#)
- [Staying home when sick and getting tested](#)
- [Contact tracing, in combination with isolation and quarantine](#)
- [Cleaning and disinfection](#)

Fall 2021 COVID Procedures

MERSD Application of consistent and correct mask use & physical distancing

- Masks required for all staff and students indoor activities and on buses (except for medical exemption)
- Maintain three feet distancing guidelines when organizing physical space (classrooms/cafes)
 - Single desk seating at lunches
- Public admittance to building by appointment only / masks required
- No Restrictions Outdoors



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MERSD Application of screening testing to promptly identify cases, clusters, and outbreaks, Screening testing to promptly identify cases, clusters, and outbreaks, Staying home when sick and getting tested, Contact tracing, in combination with isolation and quarantine

- Continue with MedBot Daily Screener
- Implement the DESE Diagnostic Testing Program
 - *Symptomatic Testing*: (for when individuals present symptoms while at school; individuals should not go to school if experiencing symptoms while at home): Shallow nasal swab samples are collected at school using the BinaxNOW rapid antigen test or another approved diagnostic test.
 - *"Test and Stay" (close contact testing)*: Shallow nasal swab samples are collected at school using the BinaxNOW rapid antigen test or another approved diagnostic test. Tests are administered daily from the first day of exposure for at least five (5) days.
- Follow DESE quarantine guidance for those who opt out of “ Test and Stay”



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MERSD Application of ventilation and cleaning and disinfection

- Standards Remain in Place from 2020-2021
 - [MERSD Facilities Cleaning Protocol](#)
 - [HVAC Report](#)

MERSD Application hand washing and respiratory etiquette

- Continue Hygiene stations and school based routines

Fall 2021 COVID Procedures

Next Steps

- **Continue MERSD Masking Policy**
- **SC Vote to Support Implementation of DESE Testing Program**
- **Implementation August 23rd**

	Essex	Memorial	Middle	High School	1-Jun	4-May	2-Apr	2-Mar	2-Feb	5-Jan	1-Dec*	Total To Date
COVID Positives												
Student	0	0	1	3	4	4	3	4	5	3	1	24
Faculty/Staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	9	2	15
					0	4	0	0	7	12	3	26
COVID Quarantines												
Student Close Contact to Student	0	0	0	22	22	4	0	0	0	0	1	27
Student Close Contact w/ Staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Student External Close Contact	0	0	2	1	3	6	8	8	7	5	10	47
					0	10	8	8	7	5	11	49
Staff Close Contact to Student	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Staff Close Contact w/ Staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	3	7
Staff External Close Contact	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5	5	5	17
					0	0	1	1	6	8	8	24
No Coverage Remote Only Days												
District/School					0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Classroom Quarantine					0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Classroom Coverage					0	0	0	0	0	5	5	10
Specialized Program Classroom Coverage					0	0	0	0	0	2	2	4
					0	0	0	0	0	7	1	8

No evidence of in-school spread identified

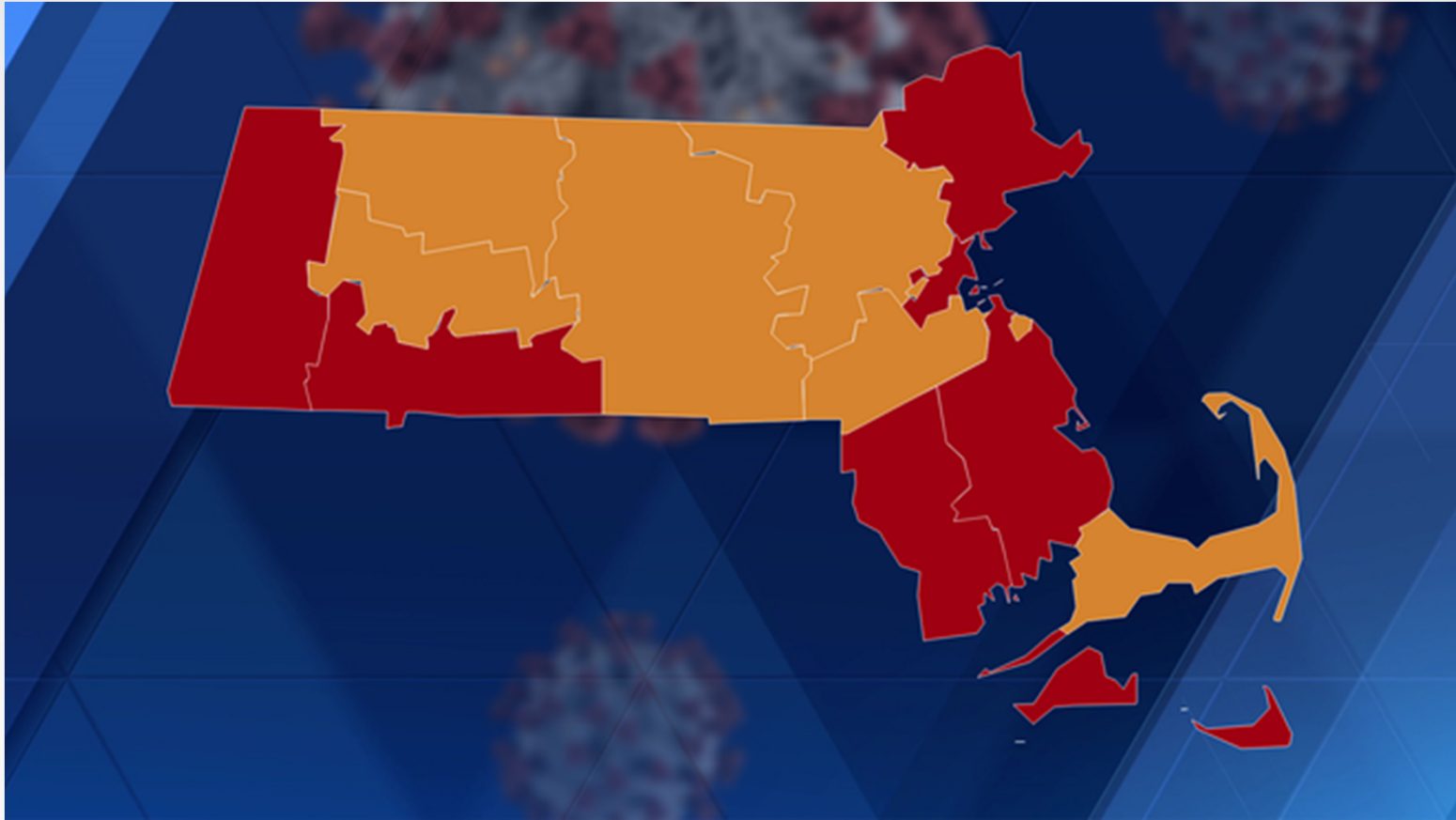
1.9% Student Positive Reported to Date

7.5% Staff Positive Reported to Date

22 Student to Staff Close Contacts – *All Athletics Related*

0 Staff to Student Close Contacts

County	Town	Age Group	Population	Proportion of town population	Individuals with at least one dose	Individuals with at least one dose per capita	Proportion of town individuals with at least one dose	Fully vaccinated individuals	Fully vaccinated individuals per capita	Proportion of town fully vaccinated individuals	Partially vaccinated individuals	Partially vaccinated individuals per capita	Proportion of town partially vaccinated individuals
Essex	Manchester	12-15 Years	312	6%	280	90%	7%	245	78%	6%	35	11%	13%
Essex	Manchester	16-19 Years	307	6%	318	>95%	8%	290	94%	8%	*	*	*
Essex	Manchester	20-29 Years	362	7%	339	94%	8%	308	85%	8%	31	9%	12%
Essex	Manchester	30-49 Years	860	18%	804	94%	20%	746	87%	19%	58	7%	22%
Essex	Manchester	50-64 Years	1,294	26%	1,187	92%	29%	1,132	88%	30%	55	4%	21%
Essex	Manchester	65-74 Years	711	15%	693	>95%	17%	655	92%	17%	38	5%	15%
Essex	Manchester	75+ Years	511	10%	468	92%	11%	453	89%	12%	*	*	*
Essex	Manchester	Total	4,899	100%	4,089	83%	100%	3,829	78%	100%	*	*	*
Essex	Essex	12-15 Years	224	6%	144	64%	6%	123	55%	5%	*	*	*
Essex	Essex	16-19 Years	195	5%	149	76%	6%	136	70%	6%	*	*	*
Essex	Essex	20-29 Years	385	10%	243	63%	9%	221	57%	9%	*	*	*
Essex	Essex	30-49 Years	854	23%	679	79%	26%	633	74%	26%	46	5%	33%
Essex	Essex	50-64 Years	893	24%	745	83%	29%	722	81%	30%	*	*	*
Essex	Essex	65-74 Years	462	13%	392	84%	15%	383	82%	16%	*	*	*
Essex	Essex	75+ Years	253	7%	220	87%	9%	216	85%	9%	*	*	*
Essex	Essex	Total	3,728	100%	2,572	69%	100%	2,434	65%	100%	*	*	*



RATE OF COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION (8.15.21)

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has created a four-tier system to indicate the rate of transmission of COVID-19 in every county.

- Blue = Low
- Yellow = Moderate
- Orange = Substantial
- Red = High

Superintendent's Update

Vision of the Graduate & Strategic Planning

- Timeline

- ✓ Training & Document Review - March
- ✓ **Survey**
- ✓ Data Review Meeting – April 28th
- ✓ **World Café Focus Groups May 5th (4:00 / 7:00)**
- ✓ Synthesize Inputs & Generate Recommendation - May
- ✓ **Convening: School Committee, Admin Team, Steering Committee meet in a facilitated goal setting session draft strategic plan informed by the work of the steering committee. May 24 and/or 25**

- Next Steps – Summer '21

- Revise Core Values language
- Organize themes for improvement into draft district level goals (in process)
- Meet with Steering Committee to received feedback on draft goals - August
- Draft Plan presented to SC – September '21

- Outcome: A Vision of the Graduate & Strategic Plan that provides a district wide framework from to guide the annual improvement process undertaken by all schools and departments.



Superintendent's Update

General Updates

- Outlook for Return to School
 - *Early outlook is no distancing, typical operations, with an open question of how masks will be use.*