



ORANGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

637 Orange Center Road • Orange, CT 06477

Dr. Vince Scarpetti
Superintendent of Schools

January 2, 2022

Dear Orange Public Schools Community,

Happy New Year! I hope you and your family had a restful and enjoyable holiday break. I am writing to let our school community know that we will be **returning to in-person learning on Monday, January 3rd, 2022 at our regular start time. There will be no delayed opening for Orange Public Schools.**

This past week the Connecticut State Department of Education provided an update on remote learning guidance. In summary, in-person learning must continue in January. At this time, district or school-wide remote learning is not an option and can only be implemented as an emergency declaration by legislative and gubernatorial authority.

I am sure you know the number of positive COVID cases is on the rise. Please be advised, our schools are clean, ventilated, and ready for students and staff to return. We are closely monitoring cases within the Orange School system.

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) recently updated its quarantine and isolation guidelines. The CT State Department of Education (CSDE) and CT Department of Public Health (DPH) provided an update to these guidelines. Please be advised Orange will be adhering to the [updated guidance](#) regarding the appropriate duration of quarantine and isolation for COVID-19.

I would like to remind all members of our school community to please be diligent about **staying home from school and contacting your school nurse** if you have tested positive, if you have been exposed to someone who has tested positive, or if you are experiencing any of the following symptoms:

Covid Symptoms:		
Fever or chills	Cough or Sore throat	Loss of taste or smell
Shortness of breath	Fatigue	Nausea or vomiting
Muscle or body ache	Headache	Congestion or runny nose

Thank you for your patience and support as we continue to provide the safest environment possible.

You may also know that Governor Lamont has announced towns and schools will be provided with at-home tests. Once we receive information on the distribution plan, we will communicate to the district families and staff.

Finally, the faculty, staff, and administration look forward to seeing your children on Monday, January 3, 2022, for in-person learning. I wish you and your family the very best in 2022!

Dr. Vince Scarpetti
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