

JACOBS SCHOOL BLUE NOTES

JANUARY 6, 2022

Mark Your Calendar!

Jan 7—Snow Day, No School

Jan 12—Jacobs School Council, 6pm

Jan 17—MLK Day, No School

Jan 18—Staff Professional Development, No School

Jan 26—Early Dismissal at 12:15

A Note from the Principal

Happy New Year! Everyone seems genuinely happy to be back in school. I know COVID is on all of our minds and I want to assure all Jacobs families that we continue to follow our protocols to keep our school community safe. I appreciate your support in helping us fight the spread of the virus. We each play an important role in ensuring that in-person learning continues safely for our students and staff. If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to call or email me. Our school community is resilient and together we will get through this.

This school year we have had more positive cases and more absences due to the numerous variants. Most of the positive cases reported have not been in the building since December 23. If there is a positive case in your child's class, Ms. Keegan will notify all close contacts, and I will send an email to the parents/guardians notifying families of the positive case. Close contacts would be students who sit at the same lunch table, unmasked and less than 3 feet apart for 15 minutes or more. Please contact your child's teacher for classwork if your child is absent for more than a day. Teachers will provide work and your child's device. It is important that students complete missed assignments to avoid additional gaps in learning.

Over the next few weeks, students, grades 1-5, will complete our mid-year assessment using the assessment-based tool called Galileo. The January benchmark reflects a half year of teaching and learning while giving us actionable targets toward the end-of-the-year mastery of grade-level standards. Don't worry if your child is absent; they will be given time to complete the assessments. Students in grades 1-5 will take assessments in math and ELA. Fifth grade students will also take a science assessment.

Enjoy the snow day tomorrow!

~Mrs. Cappadona

Health Notes from Ms. Keegan

Recently the CDC, Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education made a number of changes to the COVID -19 protocols. If you have any questions/concerns, please call the school nurse.

Back to School Guidance:

Symptomatic Students: If your child is exhibiting cold-like symptoms, please keep them home and get them tested prior to coming to school.

For individuals who test positive:

For those individuals who test positive for COVID-19, they are required to isolate (stay home) for a minimum of 5 days after symptom onset or positive test result.

They may return to school after 5 days once they have:

- Been without fever for 24 hours (without medication)
- **Experienced significant improvement in symptoms**
- Will adhere to strict mask wearing for an additional 5 days.
- **Note:** Return to school is based on symptom resolution, repeat testing is not required.

Close Contacts:

Close contacts not related to school, are required to quarantine for 5 days from last exposure, and should get tested on Day 5. If that test is negative, they can return to activities/school on Day 6. Again they should adhere to strict mask wearing and monitor their symptoms for a full 10 days.

Test and Stay: This program is used for those **unvaccinated** students that have been identified as asymptomatic close contacts **due to an exposure at school or a school sponsored activity**. The students enrolled in *Test and Stay* will be tested each morning for 5 days. If negative, they can stay in school, if the test is positive they will be required to go home and isolate for 5 full days. In order to participate in *Test and Stay* parents must complete the consent form at [this link](#) beforehand.