

Newfane Central School District

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Michael J. Baumann
Superintendent of Schools

"Together We Can"

September 16, 2021

Dear parents and guardians:

On August 28, 2021 I sent a letter home outlining the protocols and practices that would be in place and need to be enforced as we welcomed our students back to full-time, everyday instruction in our buildings for September.

On behalf of the teachers, administrators and the Board of Education, I want to thank all of you for your support and assistance during these first few weeks of school as we try to find our way back to some semblance of normalcy.

In that letter, I talked about the procedures we would follow when a student is referred to the nurses' office because they are exhibiting symptoms that could be related to COVID. I wrote, *"We will not be requiring a negative COVID test prior to their return to classes at this time; however, it is always strongly recommended that you do have your child tested for COVID, out of an abundance of caution."*

Unfortunately, the guidance we are following from the CDC has changed yet again. Now, if a child is sent home from the nurses' office with symptoms that could be related to COVID, in order for them to return to school we must have **either** an:

- Alternate diagnosis from their health care provider; or
- A negative COVID test and be symptom free for 24 hours; or
- They remain out of school for ten days and can return if symptom free.

Flowcharts developed by the Niagara County Department of Health to guide us in the return to school decisions can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3nEVadS>

This is essentially a return to the protocols that were in place last year for a student who is sent home. Please remember, these procedures go into place only when a child is sent home by the school. If your child is not feeling well, please keep them home. If you keep them home, once they are feeling better they can return to school without having to jump through the hoops outlined above.

All the other protocols outlined in my August 28 letter regarding masks and safety protocols remain in place.

Again, thank you for your continuing support and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Michael Baumann
Superintendent of Schools

