



*Florham Park Public Schools*  
**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**  
P.O. BOX 39 FLORHAM PARK, NJ 07932  
973-822-3880  
973-822-0867 Superintendent Fax  
973-822-0716 Business Office Fax

DR. STEVEN G. CAPONEGRO  
Superintendent of Schools  
steve.caponegro@fpks.org

JOHN CSATLOS  
Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary  
john.csatlos@fpks.org

December 21, 2021

**RE: Morris County CALI Level - Additional Guidance**

Dear **Florham Park Parents/Guardians and Staff**,

As communicated on December 9, 2021, the NJDOH's county [Covid-19 Activity Level Report](#) "CALI" for the Northwest region of NJ has increased and shifted from a moderate (yellow) back to a high (orange) activity level. The CALI Northwest Region includes Morris, Passaic, Sussex, and Warren County. Since then, I have had several conversations with parents, union leadership, administration, and community members regarding their concerns, our district's practices, and how they can continue to protect their families and the school community. Therefore, as your Superintendent and a parent, I thought it best to provide you with additional guidance prior to the Holiday Break.

Through conversations with our health department and other state meetings, the Florham Park School District (or any district) does not operate in a vacuum, nor should our district's procedures and decisions be made assuming so. As a community, we have seen a significant "*opening up of society*" since last year: co-curricular activities, recreational opportunities, and social gatherings that were long overdue. With this, our school community members are now socializing outside the "*walls of our schools*" and that of Florham Park. Therefore, it is that much more important that the CALI - Regional Level Count is used in determining whether additional testing for yourself and/or your child is warranted.

The district will continue its procedures of immediately contacting those determined to be *Close Contacts* in order for the individual(s) to quarantine and for students to switch to virtual instruction. Much credit needs to be given to our parents for quickly making us aware of COVID-19 positive cases that allows the district to conduct timely contact tracing; for testing and keeping symptomatic children at home. Additionally, to our administration, nurses and entire staff for their efforts in determining *Close Contacts* and transitioning to the virtual component for those impacted by COVID-19 guidelines. I could not be more proud of our staff!

Many have contacted me asking for my opinion on what they should do if gathering with family and friends over the break. Although I am not a healthcare professional, based on my conversations with the health department, it is suggested that if you are symptomatic, continue the practice of staying home and getting tested. If you are not showing any signs of illness, yet have concerns over the CALI level being Orange, you have the choice to randomly get tested for your own well-being.

With respect to varying perspectives and beliefs in our county, the purpose of this communication is not to alarm anyone. Our goal is to continue to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for our staff and students, while providing in-person instruction that meets the academic, social and emotional needs of our students... an education that they deserve! Please be assured that the district will continue to consult with our health department when administering procedures that assist us in navigating through this pandemic, while remaining receptive to ever changing guidelines. Additionally, I would like to thank our entire school community for your cooperation, efforts and for continuing to be respectful of others and their choices during this time. We will continue to navigate through this stage - *together*.

I hope that you all enjoy the Holiday Break with friends and family.

Sincerely,

*Steven Caponegro*

Dr. Steven Caponegro

*"Together, ordinary people can achieve extraordinary results." - Becca Schoettle*

cc: Mr. Thomas Cantisano, Florham Park Health Officer