## Washington Township Public Schools



## Eileen Abbott Central Administration Building

Office of the Superintendent 206 East Holly Avenue • Sewell, New Jersey 08080 (856) 589-6644 • FAX (856) 256-8931

September 23, 2021

Re: NJDOH CALI Score (Orange Level)

Dear WTPS Staff and Families:

In previous emails I have sent information regarding the process used in New Jersey to calculate COVID-19 risk levels, and how those levels impact quarantine guidelines.

The COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI) Report is a matrix used by the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) that determines if a region of the state is in a Low (Green), Moderate (Yellow), High (Orange), or Very High (Red) risk level. Washington Township is in the Southwest region that includes Gloucester, Salem, and Camden counties.

The CALI score is tabulated and released every Thursday. Since the beginning of the 2021-22 school year, our region has remained in the Moderate (Yellow) level. In the latest report released this afternoon by the NJDOH, our region has been elevated to the High (Orange) level. This is a critical shift. Now, non-vaccinated persons **must quarantine for 14 days**, and that quarantine period cannot be shortened by a negative test result. In the Yellow level, non-vaccinated persons must quarantine for 10 days, but that period can be shortened to seven days with a negative test result.

To clarify, starting tomorrow, September 24, 2021, any non-vaccinated Washington Township student or staff member determined to be a close contact of a COVID-positive individual must quarantine for 14 days.

Vaccinated students and staff members do not need to quarantine if exposed unless they become symptomatic. After developing symptoms, vaccinated persons should quarantine until they receive a negative test result.

I am sorry to bring you this disappointing news, but I didn't want anyone upset or alarmed should you need to quarantine and be told the timeframe is now 14 days. Hopefully, we will move back into the Yellow level sooner rather than later and shorten the required quarantine period. As always, I thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Mr. Joseph Bollendorf, Superintendent