

Dear SJS Families,

Last week you received an email reviewing our return to school from illness protocols. These protocols are in place to ensure the safe operation of our school during this health crisis.

Given many of you are making decisions about Christmas travel right now, we felt it was important to remind you of the following information so you can make informed choices to keep your families and our school community as safe and healthy as possible.

On October 30, 2020, the Governor announced significant changes to the quarantine requirements for persons who have traveled outside of New York and its contiguous states. While there is still a general rule imposing a 14-day quarantine upon return, the following modifications to pre-existing rules have been set forth in DOH Interim Guidance dated November 3, 2020.

1. **Exceptions to a 14 day quarantine** for all travelers returning to NY from all states other than the contiguous states of NJ, CT, MA, PA, and VT, as well as from Level 2 and 3 countries on the CDC list and US Territories:

- If out of state travel has been for **MORE THAN 24 HOURS**, testing for COVID-19 must be conducted within 72 hours **BEFORE** returning to NY; AND

- Upon arrival in NY, a person must quarantine in accordance with DOH standards for at least 3 days, measured from the time of arrival in NY, and on the fourth day after return to NY they may seek a COVID-19 PCR test to exit quarantine.

- Two negative tests are required to exit the quarantine (the one before departure from the out-of-state location and the one after day 3 of return to NY).

- If out of state travel has been for **LESS THAN 24 HOURS** to places other than the contiguous state, testing before departure from NY and mandatory quarantine is not required, but the traveler **MUST** complete the traveler form upon return **and** must be tested for COVID-19 on the fourth day after arrival in NY.

2. **The Duty to Fill Out the Traveler's Form**- All persons entering NYS who traveled to a non-contiguous state, US territory, or a Level 2 or 3 country as designated by the CDC, must fill out the travel form, updated as of November 4, 2020, available online at <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory#traveler-health-form> or be subject to significant penalties as deemed by the state.

If two tests cannot be obtained in the intervals designated above, a traveler **MUST** complete their 14 day quarantine. All travelers must **quarantine while awaiting test results**. Please keep in mind we **cannot accept rapid** COVID tests; we accept only the gold standard PCR molecular COVID-19 tests. Additionally, Orange County still requires that any student **MUST obtain a letter of clearance from their healthcare provider before returning to school**. That requirement has NOT been changed.

The ability to keep our school open and safe rests in our hands. Thank you for your partnership in doing exactly that by making responsible decisions and good choices as the Christmas holidays approach. As always, if you have any questions or need clarification on these requirements, please give the nurse at your campus a call.

Thank you,

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