

GARFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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ANNA SCIACCA
Superintendent of Schools

March 31, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Garfield District has consistently prioritized the health and safety of our students and staff while navigating the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic. As spring break is approaching, there is a concern regarding travel outside of the immediate region. Since travel increases the chance of spreading and getting Covid-19, the Garfield District Restart and Recovery Plan, in accordance with the recommendations from the CDC (Center for Disease Control) and NJ Travel Advisory, requires that staff and students who return to New Jersey from travel to another state excluding New York, Connecticut, Delaware, and Pennsylvania, must quarantine prior to returning to school. The Travel Advisory does not include an exception for individuals who received a Covid-19 vaccine. All travelers, should continue to follow the New Jersey and CDC travel recommendations for testing pre- and post-travel and for quarantine post-travel, including individuals who are fully vaccinated, and persons who recovered from Covid-19 in the past three months.

Any family who is planning to travel over the spring break must inform the school principal of your travel plans, including the state or country that you are visiting as well as the dates of travel. All students who are returning from travel outside of the immediate region must quarantine for a full seven days and present evidence of a negative Covid-19 test prior to returning to school. If the student is participating in the hybrid model and is receiving In-person instruction, the student will be able to learn remotely during the quarantine period.

The CDC offers the following guidance for travelers during the pandemic:

- If you **must** travel, take steps to protect yourself and others:
- If you are eligible, get fully vaccinated for COVID-19.
- Before you travel, get tested with a viral test 1-3 days before your trip.
- Wear a mask over your nose and mouth when in public.
- Avoid crowds and stay at least 6 feet/2 meters (about 2 arm lengths) from anyone who did not travel with you.
- Get tested 3-5 days after your trip and stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel, even if your test is negative.
If you do not get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel (Garfield District is requiring a negative test to return)
- Follow all [state and local](#) recommendations or requirements after travel.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation and support over this last unprecedented year. I appreciate all that you do to adhere to District protocols intended to prioritize health and safety in our schools and community and for your continued collaboration with the education of our students.

On behalf of the Board of Education and District Administration, please accept our best wishes for a Happy and Healthy Spring Break. It is very important to spend some quality family time together over the break and find some relief from the daily stresses that Covid-19 has brought into our lives.

Remember to reach out to your school administrator, teachers, counselors, and nurses if your child or family is experiencing any issues. We are always here to support you! Stay safe and be well!

Kind Regards,

Anna Sciacca

Superintendent of Garfield Public Schools

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