

Task Force 8/17/21

DHHS & CDC Guidelines

1. Current CDC and DHHS Recommendations
 - a. Indoor mask usage for unvaccinated
 - b. Recommendations based on community transmission
 - c. Discussion - our students work outside the town; sports from many towns; teachers from many communities; Should we look at our county, not just our town?; What were the summer trends after traveling? Exposure elsewhere is captured in the Epping number; we have used the Epping number since the beginning. We should not compare ourselves to Nashua or Salem. NHIAA is in the same mode as spring. No issues during summer program and rec. Worth noting that we have had a wet/hot summer. Concern about elementary students. Current numbers have not changed in the death rate in 19 year olds and under.
 - d. Current numbers - 5 active cases, 0 new cases; summer school and sports no cases
2. DPHS Guidance for fall plans reviewed (August 11, 2021)
3. 2021-2022 COVID Plan
 - a. No evidence of transmission
 - b. Do we use Epping data or county data? Rates in the south are high and vaccination is low.
 - c. Discussion questions:
 - i. Does COVID Task Force still recommend starting in Phase 4 of our plan given current numbers of local conditions and transmission? Or does the Task Force recommend starting in Phase 3 given local conditions and transmission? [Home screening protocol should be added to Phase 4. Should we look at the seacoast region instead of town/county?](#)
 - ii. [Vote: Is “community” seacoast region or Epping? Seacoast Region 11; Epping 6](#)
 - iii. [Vote: Indoor mask usage? Substantial - universal masks](#)
 - iv. [Vote: Outdoor mask usage? No masks outside](#)

Jordenne - it's not over yet; it will get worse before it gets better; too soon to drop everything; need to do everything we can to keep kids in school safely

Continue with cleaning protocols. Plexi was not deemed necessary, but Jordenne will check.

Wear masks at all schools; things are changing quickly.

Rockingham County - substantial; parents have strong opinions both ways. We won't make everyone happy.

Maybe we need to change the wording on bullet 2 of phase 3? What are we basing our information on? Are we doing home screening protocols? Need to educate parents.

- V. Review current mitigation measures of the recommended Phase? Based on current conditions should we modify the requirements? For example, to what extent should we be cohorting students? Social distancing expectations? What does this look like in classrooms, on busses, at recess? [Phase 4 with masks. Kids go to art room, music room etc.; lunch in cafeteria; no mask](#)

4. Masks are required on busses based on CDC definition of public transportation - this is not a decision by this committee but the bus company. Masks will be provided and encouraged

<https://www.covid19.nh.gov/dashboard/map>

- Substantial: all mask
- Moderate: K-7th mask; unvaccinated
- Minimal: no one

Recess- no mask; not segregated

Volunteers - Yes

Lunch in cafe - Yes

UA in classroom Yes

Shared materials - at teacher discretion