

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE MAPLEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION

Teaching Staff Members

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QUARANTINE FOR TEACHING STAFF

3160.01 QUARANTINE FOR TEACHING STAFF

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9, schools must be in session for 180 days to receive state aid. The statute requires that school facilities be provided for at least 180 days during the school year. Section (b) notes that where a district is required to close the schools of the district for more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive and/or recommendation by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure, days of virtual or remote instruction commensurate with in-person instruction will count towards the district's 180-day requirement.

~~The District may be confronted with the incidence of COVID-19 positive cases amongst staff, students, or persons, including children, residing with staff or there may be occasions where a staff member's child is required to quarantine as a result of a school exposure. If the District is required to exclude a staff member or a staff member is unable to report due to their child having to quarantine, while the school itself remains open for in-person instruction, the District is prepared to offer virtual or remote instruction to students in a manner commensurate with in-person instruction to the extent possible.~~

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This policy shall guide the limited circumstances where a staff member will be permitted to teach virtually:

1. If a teacher must quarantine due to an in-school exposure, the District will permit the teacher to teach virtually during the quarantine period.
2. If a teacher must quarantine due to an exposure that is not traced to a District school, the teacher must use his/her their available leave.
3. If a teacher must remain home to care for a child that is required to quarantine, **and the child is unvaccinated due to age or medical reasons**, the District will permit them **to teach virtually for up to ten days in the 2021-2022 school year if the teacher presents documentation of quarantine. The Superintendent will present the Board with monthly data on the cost of this provision.**
4. **If a teacher must quarantine due to travel, the teacher must use their available leave.**

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When virtual instruction is permitted, teachers must meet the following requirements:

1. Teachers must provide instruction during the normal schedule.

2. Teachers must have a working Internet connection with sufficient bandwidth to ensure a good connection.
3. Teachers must eliminate interruptions that might occur at home due to the circumstances requiring them to teach virtually.
4. Teachers must abide by any other protocols established by the District regarding virtual instruction.

If teachers are unable to meet the above requirements, they will be permitted to use leave during the time they are required to quarantine.

First Reading: September 20, 2021

Second Reading: October 18, 2021

Adopted: