Schools in DOE Space

FYI: Situation Room Guidance during Middle and High Schools' Temporary Closure

For the duration of middle and high schools' temporary closure, the Situation Room will track all reported COVID-19 cases of remote middle and high school students and staff. Tracking cases will help to facilitate the eventual return to in-person learning, if any confirmed cases occur close to reopening these buildings. Middle and high school principals should continue reporting COVID-19 cases to the Situation Room. Cases of students and staff serving 3-K through fifth grade will continue to be handled by the Situation Room.

However, since remote students and staff do not pose any exposure risk in school buildings, the Situation Room will only keep track of these cases called in from middle and high schools while those schools are in fully remote learning, and will not take further action to investigate, determine, and/or notify close contacts. All individuals who test positive for COVID-19 in New York City, including remote middle and high school staff and students, will still receive personal tracing from the New York City Test + Trace Corps (T2).

While the results of tracing for a remote individual may impact more than one individual in a building, due to the amount of time passed since building closure, we know the nexus of transmission was not the school building – meaning no further building action will be required. If there are any positive cases related to middle and high school staff or students who do enter a DOE building, for any reason, while their buildings are closed, these cases should be called in and will be fully investigated in the Situation Room by DOHMH and T2 per standard Situation Room protocol.

When middle and high schools reopen for in-person learning, the Situation Room will resume investigating and tracing all positive cases among DOE middle and high school students and staff who have had contact with DOE buildings.

Consistent with current expectations, in addition to contacting the Situation Room to report potential and confirmed COVID-19 cases, principals and authorized administrative staff must also notify the Department of Education's Emergency Intake Center (718) 935-3210 as outlined in Chancellor's Regulation A-412.

For questions, submit a ticket at https://charterschools.mojohelpdesk.com/. Your DOE credentials may be required to access the links above.

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