

## Volume 13, Issue 12: Special Issue April 6, 2021 for National Healthy Schools Day and the importance of indoor air and environmental quality

### **APHA's National Public Health Week is April 5-11, 2021 and National Healthy Schools Day is April 6, 2021**

The American Public Health Association's (APHA) National Public Health Week is April 5-11, 2021. The 2021 theme is "Building Bridges to Better Health." During each day of National Public Health Week, there will be a different focus on a particular public health topic. The daily themes include rebuilding, racial equity, strengthening community, climate justice, COVID-19 resilience, mental health and wellness, and the health workforce. If you are interested in learning more about National Public Health Week, please visit <http://www.nphw.org/>.

National Healthy Schools Day is April 6, 2021. National Healthy Schools Day is coordinated by Healthy Schools Network in partnership with many agencies and organizations. The 2021 focus is "Clean Air in Every School." If you are interested in learning more about National Healthy Schools Day, please visit <http://healthyschools.org/National-Healthy-Schools-Day/>.

### **Official State and Federal COVID-19 Guidance**

The State of NJ has a number of credible resources regarding COVID-19.

If you are interested in accessing official State of NJ guidance, please visit the following webpages:

- <https://covid19.nj.gov/>
- <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>
- <https://www.nj.gov/education/> including tips (topics, posted in fall 2020 and spring 2020) for virtual professional learning and teaching/working with colleagues, students and their families: <https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/virtualproflearning.shtml>.
- <https://rutgerstraining.sph.rutgers.edu/covid19/> COVID-19 Resources for Businesses and Workplaces from the Rutgers Center for Public Health Workforce Development

The U.S. government also provides COVID-19 guidance related to schools.

A few resources are provided below from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on latest guidelines, recommendations for protecting K-12 school staff, and cleaning and disinfection. The link to a six-step infographic from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for safe and effective disinfectant use in schools (and homes, etc.) is also included below. A link to a list of hand sanitizer products one should not use from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is also provided below. The NJ PEOSH Program recommends these resources as well.

The U.S. Department of Labor-Occupational Safety and Health Administration also provides a fact sheet—downloadable in English and many other languages as a PDF file—on 10 steps to reduce your exposure to SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus causing COVID-19.

If you are interested in accessing these federal guidance files, please visit the following webpages:

- [CDC Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Mitigation](#)
- [CDC Strategies for Protecting K-12 School Staff from COVID-19](#)
- [CDC Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities](#)
- [CDC Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes](#)
- [EPA Six Steps for Safe & Effective Disinfectant Use](#)
- [FDA List of Hand Sanitizer Products You Should Not Use](#)
- [USDOL-OSHA 10 Steps Workplaces Can Take to Reduce Risk of Exposure to Coronavirus](#) with English PDF being, <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3994.pdf>.

There are also school specific resources regarding COVID-19.

For example, below is a link to an infographic on mask guidance to use with high school students.

- <https://preventepidemics.org/covid19/resources/mask-playbook/>