



ORDER REGARDING COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2020, I issued an “Order of the Commissioner of Health and Mental Hygiene to Require Schools to Meet COVID-19 Health and Safety Requirements” (the “November 5, 2020 Order”) in accordance with the Governor’s Executive Order No. 202.60 and the “Interim Guidance for In-person Instruction at Pre-K to Grade 12 Schools during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency” issued on July 13, 2020, by the New York State Department of Health (“NYSDOH”), and the November 5, 2020 Order was ratified by the Board of Health on December 11, 2020, said order to remain in effect for the 2020 – 2021 school year, including any summer sessions during 2021, or such earlier time as the Commissioner of Health may indicate; and

WHEREAS, on January 19, 2021, in accordance with “Health Advisory: Quarantine for Persons Exposed to Covid-19,”¹ issued by NYSDOH on December 26, 2020, I modified the November 5, 2020 Order regarding length of quarantine (January 19, 2021 Modification Order”), which Order was ratified by the Board of Health on January 25, 2021, and

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2021, NYSDOH issued an update to the “Interim Guidance for In-person Instruction at Pre-K to Grade 12 Schools during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency”² (“April 2021 NYSDOH Schools Update”) that allows 3 feet of social distancing in classrooms depending on the age of the students and the risk of community transmission of COVID-19 as determined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”);³

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the November 5, 2020 Order and the January 19, 2021 Modification Order are no longer in effect.

Dated: May 10th, 2021



Dave A. Chokshi, M.D., MSc
Commissioner

¹ Available at <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/12/covid19-health-advisory-updated-quarantine-guidance-12.26.20.pdf>.

² Available at https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/Pre-K_to_Grade_12_Schools_MasterGuidance.pdf.

³ Available at <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>.