

# COVID QUARANTINE & ISOLATION UPDATE 1.16.22

## **Shortened Exposure Quarantine Protocol**

(does not include household exposures)

When a student is **exposed to a positive case of COVID-19 in school**, the parents will be notified and given options for returning to school. The option of a 5-day exposure quarantine is being added to our choices. Students may return to school on day 6 if parents and the student agree to follow these requirements:

- ❖ Parents certify their child has not had any symptoms and will keep them home and retest if symptoms arise within 14 days of exposure
- ❖ Parents certify that their child has a negative test on day 5 (We will accept PCR or Antigen testing, home tests are also acceptable)
- ❖ Parents and student agree that the student will wear a well-fitting mask during the school day on days 6 and 7 (students may remove masks only when they are seated at their lunch table)

## **Shortened Isolation Period For Positive Cases**

When a **student tests positive for COVID-19** an isolation period from school is required. Previously, a 10-day isolation period has always been required. Now, a 5-day isolation period may be an option. This will not be an option for all cases. Students may return to school for days 6-10 of their isolation period if parents and the student agree to follow these requirements:

- ❖ Parents certify that their child has had a mild cold-like symptoms case of COVID-19 and has not been severely ill.
- ❖ If a student tests positive with no symptoms present, and the student develops symptoms during this time, the timeline must start over. Day zero is the day your symptoms start. Day one is the first full day after your symptoms started.
- ❖ Parents certify that their child has not had any symptoms for the 48 hours prior to return
- ❖ Parents and student agree that the student will wear a well-fitting mask during the school day on days 6-10 (students may remove masks only when they are seated at their lunch table)
  - Well-fitting mask: A mask that fits snugly over your nose, mouth, and chin and does not have gaps around the edge
    - People unable to wear a well-fitting mask will need to stay home for at least 10 full days.

## **Counting your Quarantine or Isolation Period**

- ❖ **Day 0-** The day of exposure, the onset of symptoms, or positive test (please note exception under Isolation protocols if no symptoms are present with a positive test and symptoms later appear)
- ❖ Students return to school on the day following the last day of their quarantine. Example: If they are on a 5-day quarantine or isolation, they return to school on day 6

**Our Preschool Program** is required by DHS to continue reporting positive cases to the state, notifying parents of a close contact within school, and exclude sick children and staff who test positive following the above positive case guidelines.

Our preschool program will now begin following the K-8 school COVID-19 policies above for quarantine and isolation requirements. We continue to consider the entire preschool class as close contacts when there is a positive case in a room since our students do not have assigned seats and our program is play-based.