



Dear GSD Families and Staff,

January 13, 2022

As a result of changes in isolation and quarantine guidance from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and the Wayne County Health Department (WCHD), effective January 14, 2022, the following procedures will be used as it relates to COVID-19 in schools. As a reminder, the WCHD mask mandate is still in effect for all Wayne County Schools.

POSITIVE CASES

Students and staff **who test positive** for COVID-19 and/or display [COVID-19 symptoms](#) should isolate **regardless of vaccination status**:

- Isolate at home for 5 days (the day symptoms begin or day test was taken for students and staff who do not have symptoms); and
- **Return on Day 6*** - Students and staff may return to school if symptom free, while wearing a well-fitted mask, for days 6 -10; or
- Stay home for 10 days until symptoms have mostly resolved.

**If you have a fever, stay home until you are fever free for a period of 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.*

CLOSE CONTACT AT SCHOOL

Wayne County is adopting the new self-quarantine and isolation guidelines from MDHHS for schools. Specifically, Wayne County is adopting this protocol for contact tracing;

- **“Mask to Stay”***. If the COVID exposure occurred **in the school setting**, no contact tracing is required. This includes in-school contacts, including classrooms, buses, lunch and most extra-curricular activities.
- All students and staff currently quarantined as a result of being a school associated close contact to a positive case, **and are symptom free**, are eligible for immediate return. Please contact your child’s school for more information if your child is currently in a school associated quarantine.
- As a precaution, the district will continue to make close contact phone calls for these situations for the time being as families adjust to the new processes. This will also allow parents to make a personal choice about quarantining and reinforces extra caution in monitoring for symptoms daily.

* “Mask to Stay”: is the consistent and correct use of a **well-fitted** mask when around others in school and at school related events.

CLOSE CONTACT OUT OF SCHOOL SETTING

If the COVID-19 exposure occurred **away from school**, and the student or staff member is unvaccinated and has not had COVID within the past 90 days, then they have the options below:

- Home quarantine for days 1-5, if feasible test on day 5, AND “Mask to Stay” for days 6-10; or
- Home quarantine for days 1-10

SYMPTOM MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS

- Do not attend school or work if you are not feeling well ([WCHD COVID-19 Screening Tool](#)).
- Watch for symptoms, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath or other COVID-19 symptoms.
- If symptoms develop, get tested immediately and isolate until receiving test results. If test is positive, then follow isolation protocol and contact your school administration immediately.

COVID-19 DASHBOARDS

Current positive cases by building will continue to be updated on the COVID-19 website and Dashboard at <https://www.gibdist.net/about/departments/school-nurse/covid-dashboards> webpage.

GSD continues to focus on two main goals: providing in person learning while working to keep our staff and students healthy. GSD will continue to use our multi-layered mitigation strategies (cleaning, disinfecting, hand washing, etc.) in order to support these two goals.

Your Partner in Education,
Amy Conway
Superintendent