

RETURN TO LEARN

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@PUTNAM_COUNTY_R1

2020-2021

First Day of School:
August 24, 2020

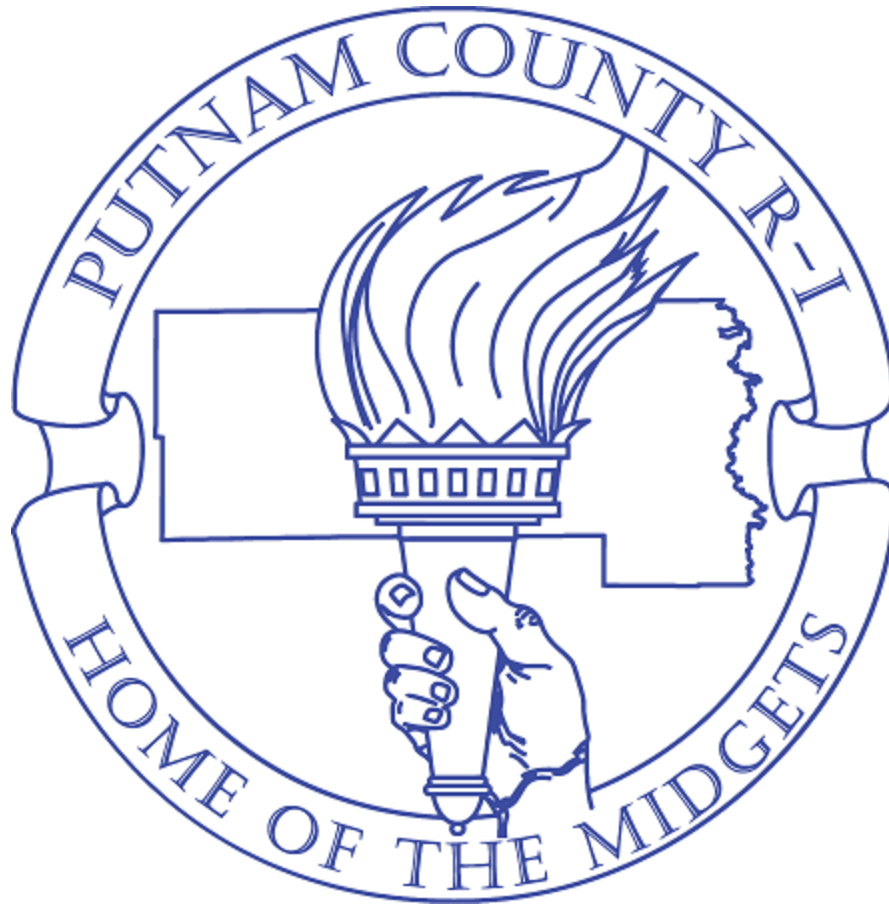


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CREATING OPPORTUNITIES
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803 S 20TH ST
UNIONVILLE, MO 63565
660-947-3361

Plans are subject to modification due to updates in public health guidelines.



Putnam County R-I Return to Learn Plan

This Return-To-Learn plan is a living document designed to outline the Putnam County R-I School District's efforts to reopen this fall. **The document is current as of the date listed below and will change as new information is made available through the proper health authorities such as the Putnam County Health Department.** The success of this plan is dependent upon adherence by all involved to the guidance and recommendations contained herein and those offered by local, state, and federal health organizations. This outline contains provisions that are feasible, practical, acceptable, and tailored to meet the needs of our students, staff, and patrons. The Putnam County R-I School District is planning and preparing on in-person learning for the fall of 2020.

Putnam County R-I Schools cannot completely prevent the possible transmission or contraction of COVID-19 for any individual.

Updated 8/13/2020



Putnam County R-I Return to Learn Plan

As we return for the 2020-2021 school year, the Putnam County R-I School District will work to minimize the risk of exposure to COVID-19 for students and staff.

However, we must all acknowledge that returning to in-seat education will introduce a greater risk of exposure in spite of our best efforts.

The following key priorities have been identified for implementation across the district in order to allow for the return to in-seat education this fall. Our plan for returning to school is built around the following foundational priorities:

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INCREASED SANITATION

- Putnam County R-I School's Custodial Team members will undergo a thorough disinfectant & sanitation training including discussion of proper product use by a chemical engineer and a review of CDC and State of Missouri Health Department cleaning expectations during school and after hours.
- We have hired additional staff to clean the school in the evening.
- Cleaning materials and hand sanitizers will be made available. Staff and students will be expected to support cleaning and disinfecting of classroom surfaces and supplies as needed.
- Students and staff will be required to wash/sanitize hands throughout the day. All students will wash hands before and after lunch. Elementary students will also wash hands before and after recess.
- Drinking fountains will be turned off, but refillable water bottle stations can be used for individual drinking containers such as cups or bottles.
- Students will be required to bring a pre-filled water bottle to school each day. Water bottles will be available for purchase at school if the need arises. Fees will be added to student fines and fees.
- PCR-I Schools have upgraded furnace filters to help improve indoor air quality.
- Putnam County R-I bus drivers will undergo sanitation training, and all school buses will be thoroughly sanitized after each route.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends washing hands for at least 20 seconds to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Keeping your child and family safe at home *Tips to help control the spread of illness*



Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are unavailable.



Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands.



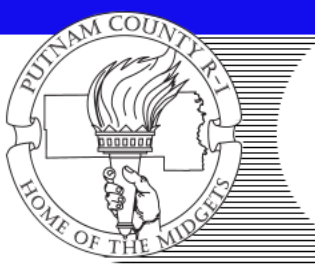
Cough or sneeze into your elbow or tissue. Throw the tissue in the trash. Wash hands or use hand sanitizer.



Avoid contact with people who are sick and stay home if you are sick.



Clean and disinfect frequently-touched objects and surfaces.

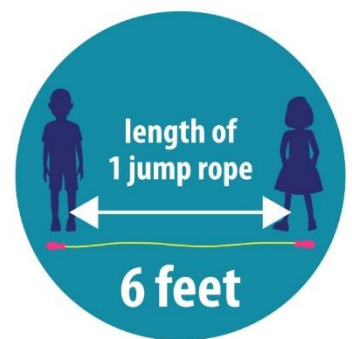
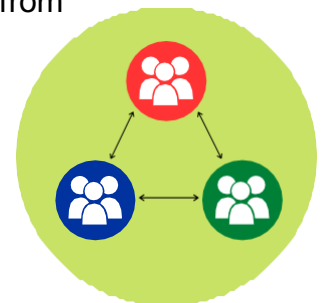


PUTNAM COUNTY R-I

SOCIAL DISTANCING

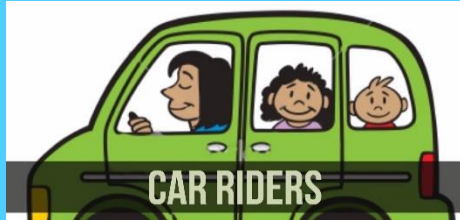
Putnam County R-I Schools will strive to create an environment that supports health guidelines without interrupting the education of our students.

- The goal is to limit exposure to as few other students and staff members as possible. Staff and students must do their very best to maintain as much distance as possible from others within school buildings.
- Assigned seats will be given within classrooms and for riding the bus. This will assist with contact tracing efforts if needed.
- Students will go immediately to designated classrooms upon arriving at school and will not congregate in hallways or common areas.
- In order to prevent students from congregating in hallways or common areas, buildings will not open until 8:00 a.m. to ensure students can be supervised in individual classrooms as needed. Special arrangements for access into buildings outside of regular school hours (such as tutoring or extra/co-curricular activities) will be arranged by staff members and supervised accordingly.
- Modifications to meal times will be made as needed. For example, lunch in the elementary school will be as usual in the elementary gym. However, we have purchased extra tables which will allow for more class separation. Unfortunately, the salad bar in the elementary will not be permitted. Middle school students will sit with their class during lunch in the HS commons. We have extended the HS & MS lunch period by 34 minutes in order to reduce the number of students in the HS commons during lunch at one time.
- When eating meals in the cafeteria, the number of students will be limited and students will be seated with fellow students from their small groups to minimize exposure.
- Modifications within the school day will be made as needed (for example, elementary teachers for classes like art or music may come to primary classrooms to limit the amount of movement within buildings, recess times will be staggered, etc.).



SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Desks in classrooms will be spaced as far apart as possible to allow for social distancing.
- Seating charts will be required in classrooms and on the bus to limit exposure and for contact tracing purposes in conjunction with the local health department as needed.
- In-school gatherings such as assemblies, rallies, school parties, dances, etc. may not be held unless proper social distance can be maintained and students can remain with limited small groups. These will be determined on a case by case basis.
- Additional details and guidelines regarding extra/co-curricular activities and competition will be released at a later time pending specific guidance from the Missouri State High School Activities Association.
- Academics are considered the primary focus of a student's education while co-curricular activity participation is voluntary. This approach will drive our planning and preparation for extra/co-curricular guidance when released.



Parents who can transport their students to/from school are encouraged to do so to help minimize the number of students riding the bus and reduce unnecessary contact.



Modifications to bus loading and unloading procedures will be made. Students will be assigned seats to limit exposure, and buses will be loaded from the back to the front to reduce student contact and interaction. Buses will be unloaded at each building to reduce contact and interaction as well.

Temperature Screening



STAFF & STUDENT SCREENING MEASURES

- Students and adults who have come into close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19 should carefully monitor for any COVID-19 symptoms and follow all instructions given by the Putnam County Health Department related to contact tracing.
- Parents will complete a pre-screening questionnaire, provided by the district, at home before sending their child to school.
- When students are kept home due to illness, the school attendance secretary will ask additional screening & entry questions regarding symptoms to confirm whether COVID-19 is a factor.
- Perfect attendance will not be incentivized by buildings, as our preference is for anyone who is sick to stay home. Learning opportunities will be provided for all students who stay home due to illness.
- Temperatures will be checked during breakfast. **Anyone experiencing a temperature at or above 100.4 will immediately be moved to a designated sick area within the school building to minimize any further contact with others until they can go home. They will be checked again 5 minutes later to verify temp before sending them home promptly. (Picked up within 30 minutes)** Student temps will also be checked before extra-curricular and co-curricular activities.
- Where appropriate, handheld thermal temperature readers will also be used at buildings, at additional entrances, by parent educators before meeting with families, for activities purposes, etc.
- Students and staff who are sent home with a fever must be fever-free for **24 hours** without the use of fever-reducing medications and may return to **school if accompanied by a doctor's note with a diagnosis not related to a respiratory illness, influenza or COVID-19** (such as pink eye, strep throat, ear infection, etc.).
- Students and staff must be fever-free for **48 hours** without the use of fever-reducing medications **if not accompanied by a doctor's note for a diagnosis.**

FEELING SICK?
STAY HOME



CONNECT WITH
YOUR SCHOOL



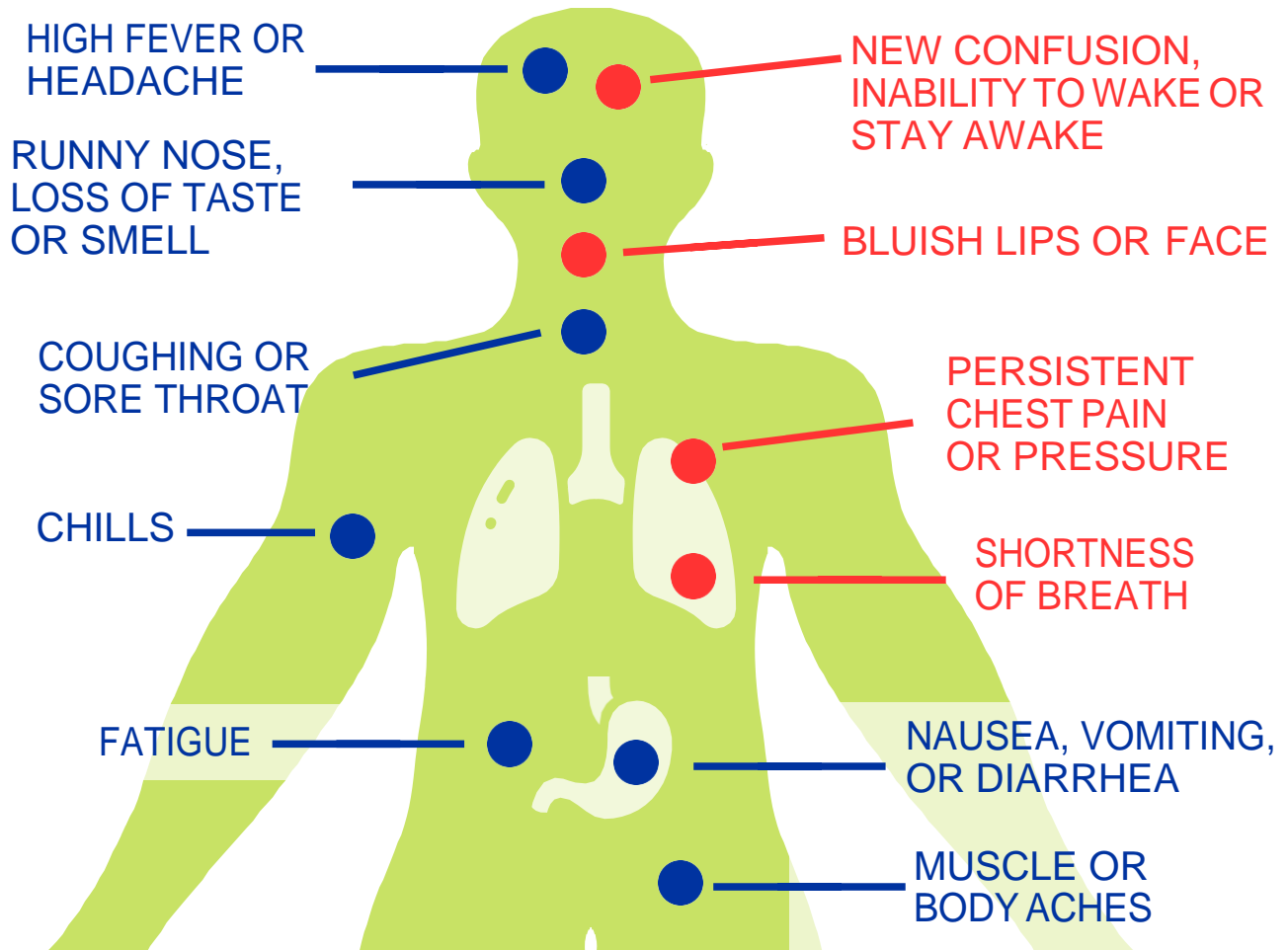
TAKE TIME TO
FULLY RECOVER



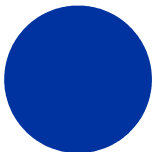
**Fever reducing medications include Tylenol, Acetaminophen, Motrin, Ibuprofen, etc.*

STAFF & STUDENT SCREENING MEASURES

Students and staff who experience symptoms related to COVID-19 should not come to school. COVID-19 symptoms include the following:



BLUE DOT SYMPTOMS



Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19.

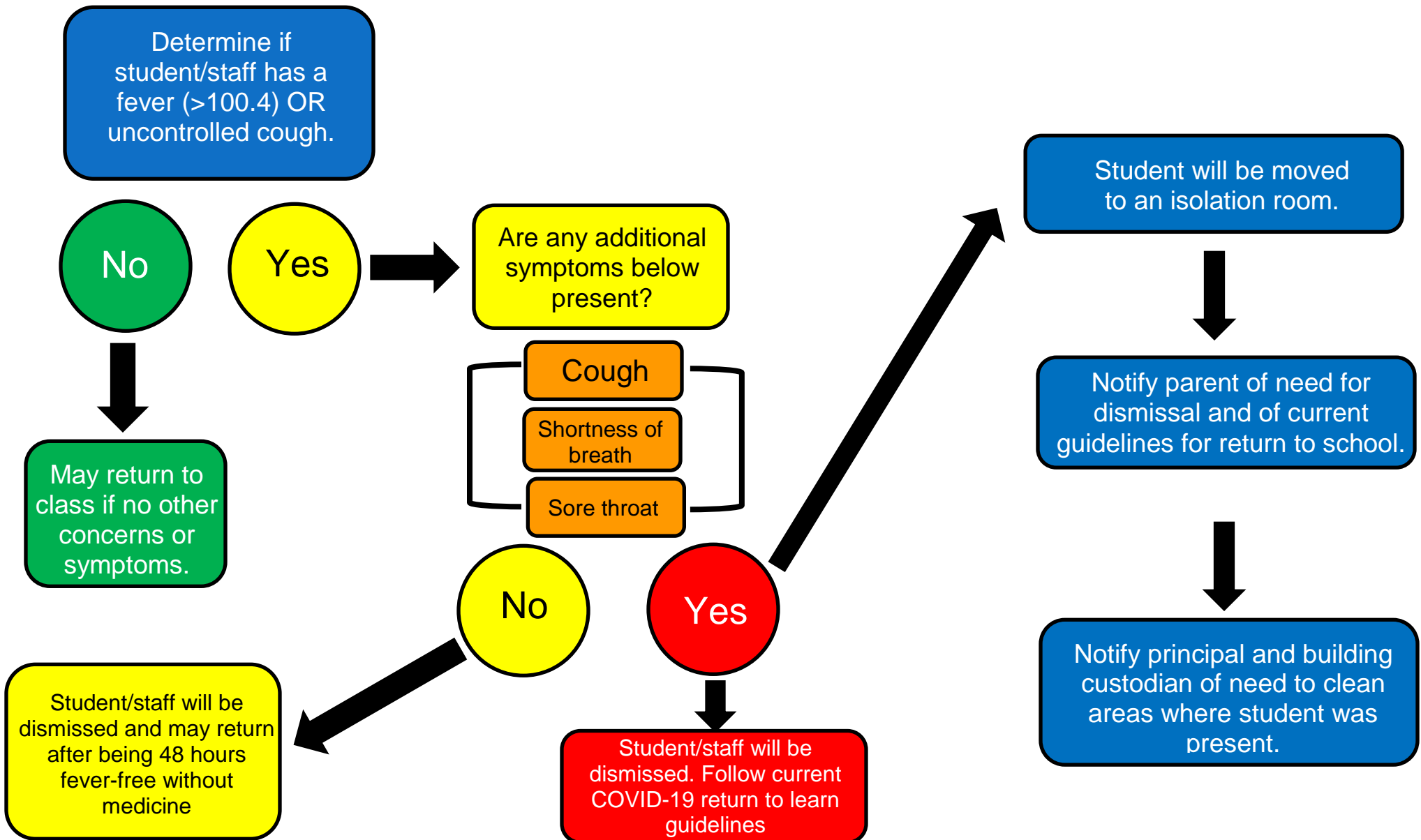
RED DOT SYMPTOMS



Emergency warning signs for COVID-19. If you or someone you know is showing any of these signs, seek emergency medical care immediately.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Staff & Student Screening Chart



Face Coverings

- **The use of masks or face coverings will not be mandated at this time.**
- All students must have a clean mask available to wear each day, and will be required to wear one if going to the nurse's office.
- Due to possible medical-related concerns, we understand that not all staff and students will be able to wear masks.
- Existing student and staff dress codes will apply to face coverings that are worn.



- **It is possible that, if local conditions warrant it, PCR-I Schools will consider implementing stricter requirements related to face coverings.**

- The use of masks or face coverings will not be prohibited in any instances throughout the school day where a student or staff member chooses to wear them.



Follow Everyday Health Habits

- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Wash your hands often, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds each time
- Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available

LIMITED VISITOR ACCESS TO BUILDINGS

- To minimize the exposure of all students and staff to others outside of their assigned small groups, non-essential visitors and parents will not be permitted beyond the office buildings.
- **All visitors are required to wear a mask.**
- Any essential visitors who do enter will be required to enter through the main entrance of the building, may be scanned for temperature check, and will be tracked in a visitor log. The log will include symptom screening questions, date and time of visit, location in the building they travel to, and which, if any, students or staff they have contact with.
- These restrictions will apply during the school day but may differ somewhat for evening activities, which are optional to attend.

Sample Screening Questions for Essential Visitor



Have you been experiencing any of the COVID-19 symptoms?



What is the date and time of your visit?

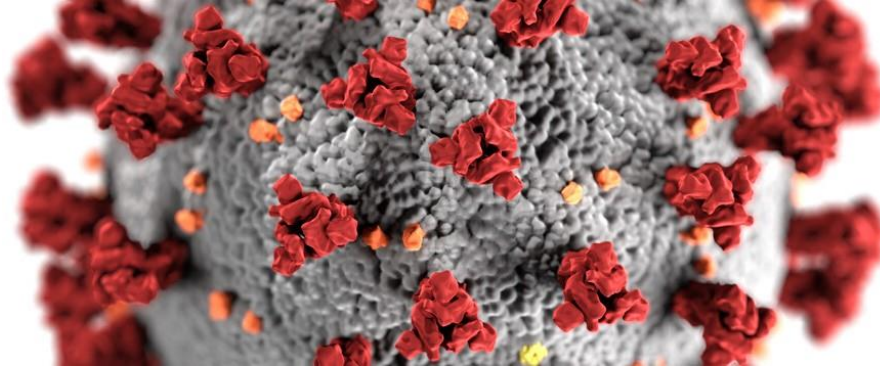


Where in the school building are you traveling to?



Which students and/or staff in the building did you have contact with?





PROCEDURES FOR COVID-19 INFECTIONS



- Students or staff who display symptoms of COVID-19 while at school will be moved to a designated sick area within the school building to minimize contact with others until they go home.



- In the event of a long-term closure and conditions are such in our school that we are unable to safely bring students to school, then we will not have any after school activities, including sports.



- Extra-curricular activity decisions will be made on a case by case basis.



- If a student comes into direct contact with a positive COVID-19 case, he or she may be quarantined.

WHAT IS CONTACT TRACING?

Contact tracing is used by health departments to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

In general, contact tracing involves identifying people who have an infectious disease (cases) and people who they came in contact with (contacts) and working with them to interrupt disease spread.

This includes asking people with COVID-19 to isolate and their contacts to quarantine at home voluntarily.

Contact tracing is a core disease control activity. It has been used for decades to slow or stop the spread of infectious diseases.

Source: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

PROCEDURES FOR COVID-19 INFECTIONS



- Students who are identified as a close contact of the positive case will not be permitted to return to school until after they have been released by the local health department.



- Students who are not identified as a close contact of the positive case will be permitted to return to school after contact tracing by the local health department is complete.



- If the school district becomes aware of an official positive COVID-19 case that could impact a school building, staff and families will be notified as soon as possible.



- Students and staff may be contacted to assist with contact tracing efforts, review assigned seating charts, and to determine which individuals the positive case had contact with while contagious.

CONTACT TRACING INVOLVES:

Interviewing people with COVID-19 to identify everyone they had close contact with during the time they may have been infectious.

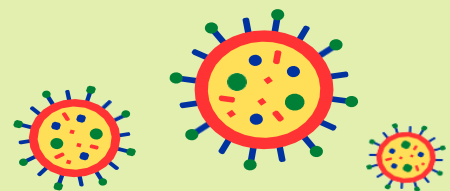
Notifying contacts of potential exposure.

Referring contacts for COVID-19 testing.

Monitoring contacts for signs & symptoms of COVID-19.

Connecting contacts with services they might need during the self-quarantine period.

Source: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



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Thank you for your patience, cooperation, and understanding as we do our best to keep our students safe, healthy, and returning to learning at school. It takes a village and we appreciate our PCR-I community!