

● COVID-19 ● CLOSE CONTACT ● QUARANTINE ●

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent/Guardian or Staff Member,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that \_\_\_\_\_ has been identified as a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case at school. The following close contact quarantine protocols will be in effect in the district.

1. Asymptomatic close contacts do not have to quarantine at home and do not have to mask at school.
2. Symptomatic close contacts must quarantine until a negative test (no home tests accepted) confirms symptoms are not due to COVID. Close contacts who are symptomatic and don't choose to test will be treated as positive cases.
3. Individuals with lab-confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days do not need to quarantine, as per CDC guidance.

*Vaccination status, positive antibody status, or previously positive COVID-19 status (outside of 90 days) are not pertinent under current district protocol since asymptomatic close contacts are no longer required to quarantine. In all of these cases, unless positive COVID-19 test results (completed by an acceptable, approved testing provider) are confirmed within last 90 days, anyone who is a SYMPTOMATIC close contact will be treated as a positive case.*

- Day 0 is the last day of contact (exposure) to the positive case: \_\_\_\_\_
- Close contacts must symptom monitor for 10 days following exposure.
- If the close contact has any symptoms, they must test negative (no home tests accepted) OR will otherwise be treated as a positive case. A positive case must isolate for 5 days (day 0=date of symptom onset), and may be released to activity (if symptoms are improving and if fever-free for 24 hours) on day 6, with masking in place through day 10 for all school activities. Individuals with mask exemptions may choose to wear a school-provided face shield during the isolation period. If unable to wear a face mask (or school-provided face shield for those with mask exemptions) properly, individuals must isolate the full 10 days (no exemptions or exceptions): \_\_\_\_\_

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services and the CDC recommend that anyone who has had close contact be tested, even if you do not have symptoms and even if you are vaccinated. You can look for a community testing sites near you at:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/testing.htm>. Keep in mind that some community testing sites will not test children under a certain age. Close contacts should monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 during the quarantine period and seek testing and/or medical attention if he/she becomes symptomatic. Symptoms of COVID-19 include: cough, trouble breathing, loss of taste or smell, fever (>100°F)/chills, muscle/body aches, headache, fatigue, runny nose or nasal congestion, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. COVID-19 spreads from person to person through droplets created when we cough, sneeze, talk, sing or laugh. The following guidelines will help to prevent further spread of illness and COVID-19 at our school: get vaccinated if eligible, wear a face covering when in public, distance as able, wash hands or sanitize frequently, cover coughs and sneezes, monitor for symptoms, stay home when sick, avoid crowded spaces, and avoid spending time with others when they are sick. Most people who get COVID-19 have mild illness, similar to having a cold or the flu. However, in others COVID-19 can cause severe illness. Seek medical attention or call 9-1-1 if you have any of the following warning signs: trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or inability to be awakened, or bluish lips or face. For questions, please call the school nurse at 375-4165, or go to: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Sincerely,

Boscobel Area Schools