

● COVID-19 ● CLOSE CONTACT ● QUARANTINE ●

Dear Parent/Guardian or Staff Member,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that you have been identified as a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case at school. The full and safest quarantine period for close contacts is 10 days. However, as of January 10, 2022, the following close contact quarantine protocols will be in effect in the district.

1. Close contacts who are ASYMPTOMATIC may choose to quarantine at home or at school. Close contacts who attend school during their quarantine period must mask through the 10-day quarantine period (no exceptions or exemptions and this applies to all school-related events/activities).
2. Close contacts who experience any symptoms must quarantine until they produce a negative test result, or they will be treated as a positive case and not may attend school or school-related activities during the quarantine period.
3. All close contacts (or their parents/guardians) must complete a daily home screening if the close contact is attending school during a close contact quarantine period. See also "Home Health Screenings & Absences."

*Vaccination status, positive antibody status, or previously positive COVID-19 status are not pertinent under current district protocols 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. Asymptomatic close contacts may participate in school-related activities and athletics (unless SWAL or WIAA is more restrictive with their close contact requirements) and these individuals must wear a face mask for the full 10-day quarantine period (no exceptions or exemptions).*

- Day 0 is the last day of contact (exposure) to the positive case.
- If the close contact has any symptoms, they must test negative OR will otherwise be treated as a positive case. A positive case must quarantine for 5 days, and may be released on day 6 if symptoms are improved and if fever-free for 24 hours.
- Close contacts must wear a mask for the full 10-day quarantine period (no exceptions or exemptions). If masks are not required at school, the close contact may choose not to wear a mask after day 10.

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