



Knob Noster Public Schools

Dr. Jerrod Wheeler, Superintendent | Mr. Michael Cohron, Assistant Superintendent | Mrs. Deenia Hocker, Director of Student Services
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Date: 8-18-2021
To: All Parents/Guardians
From: Jerrod Wheeler
RE: Covid Clarifications

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope your back to school events are going well and that you are ready to kick off the new school year!

I am continuing to receive Covid-19 protocol updates almost daily. Accordingly, I want to provide clarification on some of the most important information. This information comes to you following a team meeting with school nurses which occurred yesterday.

Actions for Symptomatic Individuals

If a student has symptoms, please keep them home and monitor for known Covid-19 symptoms, or seek health evaluation from a professional, or consider getting tested. For non-Covid Symptoms, we are imposing a 48 hour (fever-free) return to school. This is a change from our prior 24-hour fever-free return. This will apply to adults and students. For Covid symptoms, you may return following a negative test, should you choose to get tested. Otherwise, a 10 day quarantine will be imposed from the date symptoms first began. A date of return will be provided by your school nurse.

Close Contact Definition

READ & THINK Carefully. The new CDC DEFINITION for close contact is THREE (3) feet or less for 15 minutes or more. For perspective, an adult arm is about 2.5 to 3 feet long. Headrests on most cars are over 3 feet apart on center. A teacher's desk is about three feet deep. I am just sharing the obvious to make sure we keep in perspective how we can significantly limit our Close Contacts, based on CDC Definition, with just a little effort. Our safeguards in school are designed to SIGNIFICANTLY reduce, and in most cases eliminate, Close Contacts.

The district will be relying on the local health department to notify us of positive cases AND associated close contacts, at which time we will vet that information with our internal protocols and monitoring, if the Close Contact is reported to have occurred in school. We also ask that our parents notify us of any positive cases in their household, most importantly, with their student.

READ & THINK Carefully. Individuals who are vaccinated OR who have been positive for Covid-19 in the last three (3) months do NOT have quarantine from school following a Close Contact (3 feet or less / 15 minutes or more) exposure. CDC suggests wearing a mask for 14 days and getting tested 3-5 days after exposure. This will be shared with all individuals identified as a Close Contact.

Masking

If an individual is identified as a Close Contact (3 feet or less/ 15 minutes or more) no quarantine from school is required if both parties were masked at the time of exposure. The elimination of Close Contacts is an indisputable value of wearing masks in school.

Quarantine

1. For Covid symptomatic individuals, a 10 day quarantine from the initial onset of symptoms will be imposed.
2. For a Covid-19 positive individual with symptoms, a 10 day quarantine from the initial onset of symptoms will be imposed.
3. For Covid-19 positive individuals without symptoms, a 14 day quarantine from date of positive test will be imposed.
4. MSHSAA rules will apply for those students participating in activities who test positive. See AD Mark Carey for details.

With these guidelines, the district health team and I desire to begin the year in the safest manner practical and with the least disruption to our learning environment. Please continue to make wise personal decisions to protect the health of you and your family. As always, thank you for your ongoing partnership and communication. Please continue to reach out to our team with any needs.

V/R,
Jerrod Wheeler