

# COVID-19 Information for Parents

## *from the School Nurse*

### (FAQ's)

#### **When should I keep my child home from school?**

- When they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms that are not associated with any other known illness.
- Only **ONE** of the following symptoms is enough of a sign that the CDC recommends keeping your child home:
  - fever (temp above 100.0 degrees F)
  - cough
  - shortness of breath
  - difficulty breathing
  - new lack of smell or taste

or **TWO** of the following:

- sore throat
- runny nose/congestion
- chills
- muscle pain
- nausea or vomiting
- headache
- diarrhea
- fatigue

#### **Should I notify the school of potential exposures outside of school?**

- Please keep your child home and contact the school nurse if your child has been in close contact with a family member or person who has tested positive for COVID-19 - **OR-** if you have been contacted by the Department of Health (DOH) contact tracer and have been asked to quarantine.
- Any student/staff who is asked to quarantine by a contact tracer must be cleared to return to school by the DOH.

#### **What happens if my child is sent home ill from school?**

- If your child is sent home with a fever (over 100.0 degrees F) **and** COVID-19 symptoms, you shall be required to provide a doctor's note and/or a release from the Department of Health to return to school.

### **What happens if my child tests positive?**

- If your child tests positive for COVID-19, the Department of Health (DOH) nurse will contact you. You will follow their protocol for contact tracing, quarantine, and return to school plan.
- If a student or staff member tests positive, they will be required to provide a release from their doctor and/or DOH to return to school.

### **What happens if someone (student or staff) in my child's classroom tests positive for COVID-19?**

- If there is a positive case within the school district, the Department of Health (DOH) will contact the school. We will be asked to provide names and contact numbers for students/staff who are considered a close contact of the positive case (students/staff in the same classroom, bus, etc.). This is part of the contact tracing guidelines for the health and safety of all students and staff, and *no additional personal information* will be given.
- At that point, the Department of Health will direct the school to follow a specified procedure/protocol. Philipsburg-Osceola SD will follow all current DOH/PDE guidelines concerning cleaning, school closures, communication with the school community, etc. This may include one or more of the following:
  - Vigilant symptom monitoring
  - Quarantine
  - Temporary classroom closures for disinfecting/cleaning
- Students and staff will be required to provide a doctor's note and/or a release from the Department of Health before returning to school following a positive test.

### **How will students return to school following COVID -19 related absences?**

- Doctor's notes and/or DOH releases must be either emailed/faxed directly to the school - OR- delivered in person by a parent or guardian to the office.
- Students must be transported to the school by parents/guardians and report to the office before returning to classes.

### **Will my child still be able to receive required medications and health services throughout the school day?**

- Yes, there will be separate "well" and sick areas in the health office for medication administration, treatments, and first aid care. There will also be a separate room for isolation.

Questions or concerns may be directed to Certified School Nurses

**Philipsburg-Osceola Middle School / Senior High School**

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**Please see the link below from the DOH with back to school parent guidance.**

[Back to School Guidance](#)

