



LYNCHBURG-CLAY

LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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To: The Lynchburg-Clay School Community

From: Jack Fisher, Superintendent

Re: Updated Quarantine Protocols

Greetings,

As you know the district's guidelines for dealing with COVID is posted on the district website. Guidance continues to come from state and local health agencies. I know this frustrates many, but things continue to evolve and we must make adjustments. Here are some simplified guidelines of how we will deal with the quarantine issue. Keep in mind that while wearing a mask and being vaccinated is a personal choice, it can affect quarantine protocols.

In light of the newly released Ohio Department of Health Quarantine Guidelines, all Highland County School Systems will be utilizing the following standard quarantine timeframes for all school related quarantines, including classroom, athletic, and extracurricular settings:

- 10-Day Quarantine: Exposed individuals will stay at home for at least 10 days after last exposure to a COVID-19 case. A negative test is not required as a part of this quarantine.
- 7-Day Quarantine: Exposed individuals can return after 7 days of quarantine if a negative PCR or antigen test result for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) is provided from a sample collected no later than 5 days after the person's last close contact with an active COVID-19 case. This negative test result must be collected and tested by a healthcare professional. **At home rapid COVID-19 antigen test results will not be accepted by school systems** UNLESS those tests are performed in conjunction with an online healthcare proctor. Results of testing must be provided to the school nurse in order to qualify for this 7-day quarantine period.
- When determining which individuals should quarantine after a COVID exposure at school, administration must take into account which affected individuals were wearing a mask and/or vaccinated at the time of exposure.

- Staff and students who have received their final dose of the COVID vaccine at least 14 days prior to a COVID exposure may be exempt from quarantining if they **choose** to present their vaccination record to the school nurse.

- **-Per the recommendation of the Highland County Health Department**, if the prevalence of COVID in Highland County, Ohio reaches twice the Centers for Disease Control's "high" index (500 cases per 100,000 residents) at any point in the 2021-2022 school year, Lynchburg-Clay Local School District will require students and staff to wear a mask in the school setting. We are well below that number currently, but cases continue to rise.

- **-Per the recommendation of the Highland County Health Department -** If a particular building experiences a high quarantine / absence rate directly connected to COVID, we will consider making masks mandatory in that particular building.

I know this situation is serious, but frustrating for many. The guidelines will certainly continue to change and we as a school district will continue to adjust as required/needed in order to protect our students and staff. I ask that you be patient and ask questions. Our administrators and health staff are having to make some tough decisions with information that seems to change daily. Our number one priority is to keep everyone safe and healthy. We will get through this together.

Jack Fisher

Superintendent, Lynchburg-Clay LSD