

# Bryan County Schools COVID Guidelines 2021-2022 School Year

## **Masks**

Masks continue to be optional; however, we highly recommend and encourage students and visitors wear masks. Bryan County Schools will continue to provide disposable masks to individuals who might request them.

## **Students or Staff with COVID-19**

Students or staff who test positive for COVID-19 will continue to follow Department of Public Health guidelines, which require individuals to stay home for 10 days since symptoms first appeared and be fever-free, without use of fever-reducing medications, for 24 hours before returning to school. **Do not send your non-tested symptomatic student to school.**

## **School Notification/Contact Tracing**

When Principals are informed of a positive case among students or staff, they will notify any affected staff and will send notification via text, email, or phone call to the parents of students in the impacted classes notifying them of the positive case and the important need to monitor for symptoms.

## **Mandatory Quarantines**

Any unvaccinated asymptomatic student that receives notification because of close contact exposure or lives in the same household as an individual that has tested positive for COVID-19 will be required to quarantine for a minimum of five school days from last close contact with positive student. If the student remains asymptomatic, they may return to school on day eight (5 school days + Sat/Sun).

The mandatory quarantine period for asymptomatic students mirrors the CDC's test out option.

If at any time during mandatory quarantine your student becomes symptomatic, the quarantined student shall be considered a person with suspected COVID-19 and quarantine for ten days since symptoms first appeared and be fever-free, without use of fever-reducing medications, for 24 hours before returning to school.

Absences because of mandatory quarantine will be excused.

## **Vaccinations**

COVID-19 vaccinations are not required for employees or students. The Bryan County Health Department and many local healthcare providers have COVID-19 vaccines readily available. We encourage you to speak with your healthcare provider about vaccinations.

## **Mitigation Practices and Cleaning**

Protecting our students, teachers, and staff from infection is critical to ensuring instruction continues without interruption. Schools will continue to use physical distancing when possible and encourage proper hygiene practices, such as washing hands regularly and using hand sanitizer. Students and staff should self-monitor daily for COVID-19 symptoms. Bryan County Schools will continue to invest in increased cleaning and sanitizing applications at all school locations and on buses. These measures have made an improvement in overall student and staff health.

**Bryan County Schools COVID-19 Guidelines are completely dependent upon the impact of COVID-19 on our schools. These guidelines may be changed at any time.**