



WILDCATS

Union R-XI School District

21/22 COVID protocol and procedures for #unionrxi:

Updated 8/4/21

- **Fully vaccinated staff and students who remain symptom free will NOT have to quarantine (this includes extra-curriculars for students) in the event they are identified as a close contact through the contact tracing process.** If a staff member or a student is fully vaccinated, has been identified as a close contact, AND is exhibiting 2 or more COVID symptoms, they may be required to take a COVID test to ensure they are not COVID+ before being able to return to work/school.
- **A close contact is defined as someone who was within 6 feet of a COVID+ person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24 hour period** (For example, three separate 5 minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes or sitting near a COVID+ person for 15 minutes).
- At our July Board of Education meeting, **our BoE voted to make masking/covering optional for all staff and students for the 21/22 school year.** This decision is of course subject to change based on student and staff health. As a result, staff and students who are not fully vaccinated will be subject to Franklin County Health Department issued quarantines if they are identified as a close contact through the contact tracing process.
- Our COVID leave resolution, which provided team members paid time off for COVID related absences, expired effective June 30, 2021. **At this time, because there is no federal or state level requirement or recommendation, we do not plan to extend our COVID leave resolution.** When staff are absent, regardless of the reason, we will all follow our board approved leave policy. We will of course monitor district absences related to COVID and review as needed.
- By order of the CDC, **all staff and students (regardless of vaccination status) riding a school bus will be required to wear a face mask/covering.** This includes riding a bus to and from school as well as riding a bus to any after school extra-curricular activity or sporting event.
- **We will still offer on-site COVID testing for all district team members as well as their respective children.** Please reach out to our Director of Health and Education Services, Kristi Gerling, if you wish to discuss getting tested.
- **The period of isolation for an individual that has tested positive for COVID (regardless of vaccination status) is a full 10 days from the onset of symptoms.** Isolation means that the COVID+ individual should stay in a specific “sick room” or area of the home away from all others.
- **The Franklin County Health Department allows removal from quarantine on day 11 without testing as long as you are symptom free without the use of medication.** A test out option will be available for unvaccinated staff and students, however, the close contact should be symptom free and the COVID test should not take place until at least day 5 after exposure. If the COVID test is completed 5 or more days after exposure and the test is negative AND the individual is symptom free, the individual may be removed from quarantine on day 8.