

JEFFERSON COUNTY R-VII SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Clint D. Johnston, Superintendent of Schools

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Jefferson High School

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Telegraph Intermediate

Principal: Dalania Watson 1265 Dooling Hollow Road Festus, MO 63028 (636) 937-6530 watsond@jr7.k12.mo.us

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PRESS RELEASE

TO:

Jefferson R-VII School District

FROM:

Clint D. Johnston, Superintendent of Schools

DATE:

September 2, 2021

RE:

Changes in Jefferson County Health Department Quarantine

Procedures

Jefferson R-VII School District continues to be a part of an ever-changing world involving guidance and direction related to the worldwide pandemic which continues to impact our nation, state, county, and school district. With this information in mind, the Jefferson County Health Department has released information regarding modified COVID-19 quarantine recommendations, which are updates specific for schools.

Below you will find the key points / highlights of quarantine updates:

Quarantine Guidance:

- Starting Tuesday, September 7th, there will be two types of quarantines for students and staff.
- The Traditional Quarantine, which is an at-home quarantine, allows students and staff to return to school after 10 days as long as you are symptom-free or at the end of 7 days with a negative diagnostic test that was taken on day 5 or later.
- Starting on Tuesday, September 7th, we will be able to use the new Modified Quarantine when we fall below 4% positivity for the District / building.
- New Modified Quarantine options are available for students and staff who
 are exposed at school only. Under the Modified Quarantine, you will now
 be allowed to quarantine at school.
- Modified Quarantine is an in-school quarantine; as long as the student or staff member are symptom-free, they will be allowed to attend school, but will be required to wear a mask properly in school for 14 days.



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 Students on Modified Quarantine will still be excluded from athletics and activities for 14 days, unless they have been fully vaccinated or have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have documented proof.

Key Additions for the District:

- Under the new rules, if 4% of the students and staff of the district and/or a specific building test positive for COVID-19, the district and/or building will be required to return to Traditional Quarantines only until they fall below the 4% for a 7-day period.
- At Jefferson R-VII School District, if the district / a building reaches 2% of students and staff testing positive, masks will be required to be worn until the district / building falls below 2% plus an additional 7 days.
- Under Modified Quarantine, students will be required to wear masks in all indoor class settings, but will not be required to wear masks outside or where social distancing can be obtained for a distance of greater than six feet.
- Masks are always required on school buses, per federal mandate.
- Modified Quarantine gives parents a choice where your child can stay in school (where we would like them to be) with a mask rather than having to keep them at home in Traditional Quarantine.
- Students and Staff who are on Modified Quarantine will be given one warning for not wearing their mask or not wearing the mask correctly; on the second offense they will be moved to a Traditional Quarantine.

Additional information for guidance regarding Modified Quarantine and Traditional Quarantine can be found at the Jefferson County Health Department website at www.jeffcohealth.org.

Please find the updated COVID-19 Dashboard on the district website at www.jr7.k12.mo.us as it provides data regarding current positive cases within the buildings and the District.

The District will continue to share information using our website and dashboard regarding COVID-19 to ensure you are informed of changes as they are made.

Thank you to the Blue Jay Nation for your continued support of our children during the ongoing challenging times in education.