



Northern Adirondack Central School District

Office of the Superintendent

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2021 -2022 COVID – 19 Related Procedures and Plans

Masking

- All staff, students, and visitors while inside all school buildings and buses are required to wear a mask (neck gaiters and bandanas are not approved, only surgical masks, cloth masks, or N95 masks are approved face coverings)
- If an individual is not wearing a mask or the proper type, an approved face covering will be provided to them)
- No masks are required while outside of a school building, including during outdoor recess or physical education classes

Physical Distancing

- 3 feet where practical inside (*School leaders should keep in mind that they should not exclude students from in-person learning to keep a minimum distance requirement*) (<https://sites.ed.gov/roadmap/health-safety>)
- Buses – not required to but all will wear masks

Cafeteria

- 6 feet physical distancing – when masks are off for eating
- Masks when not eating
- Alternative locations may serve as a cafeteria setting

COVID-19 Testing at school, isolation, and quarantine

Asymptomatic Surveillance Testing

- Asymptomatic Surveillance Testing for all unvaccinated faculty and staff members is required weekly and will be conducted in collaboration with the Clinton County Health Department and CVES BOCES
- The Asymptomatic Surveillance Testing is available for vaccinated faculty and staff if they choose to opt-in to the program on a weekly basis
- Vaccinated faculty and staff who choose to opt-out of the Asymptomatic Surveillance Testing program, must provide proof of their vaccination status and sign an opt-out form

- The testing will be done on campus at one location during a designated time period to remain the same weekly
- Quadrant Biosciences is the laboratory that will provide the results of this testing
- The results are expected to be provided within a 48 hour period from when the tests are administered
- The Clarifi COVID – 19 Saliva Test will be the test used for the Asymptomatic Surveillance Testing program –
https://f.hubspotusercontent20.net/hubfs/7307728/Quadrant_Biosciences_June_2021/Pdf/Patient-Fact-Sheet-May-6-2021.pdf
- Asymptomatic Surveillance Testing for students will be an option for parents to choose when Clinton County is at the Moderate (yellow), Substantial (orange), or High (red) community transmission rate designation established by the CDC –
https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view|New%20York|36019|Risk|community_transmission_level
- Information required for opting-in to the Asymptomatic Surveillance Testing program for students will be shared later in September
- Asymptomatic Surveillance Testing will not have a cost attached to it and will not be subject to submission to an individual's insurance carrier as long as the Clinton County Health Department continues to have Federal Stimulus Money to support this mandated process

Symptomatic Testing

- Symptomatic Testing will be available for all faculty, staff, and students at NAC for those who choose to have a PCR test done here before heading home with COVID – 19 symptoms
- The Asymptomatic Surveillance Testing will be done in the Nurse's Office of the building that an individual is in
- Quadrant Biosciences is the laboratory that will provide the results of this testing
- The results are expected to be provided within a 48 hour period from when the tests are administered
- The Clarifi COVID – 19 Saliva Test will be the test used for the Symptomatic Testing option –
https://f.hubspotusercontent20.net/hubfs/7307728/Quadrant_Biosciences_June_2021/Pdf/Patient-Fact-Sheet-May-6-2021.pdf
- The benefits of having the Symptomatic Testing done here at NAC are that an individual does not need to go elsewhere for a PCR test and the results will be returned quicker than from most other testing locations

- Symptomatic Testing will have a cost attached to it and will be subject to submission to an individual's insurance carrier

Isolation and Quarantine

Clinton County Health Department

2021-22 School Isolation & Quarantine Guidance

Identifying Cases

CCHD recommends any student, staff or faculty experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) to stay home and contact their health care provider. The HCP will determine if a diagnostic test is needed or an alternative diagnosis exists. It is best practice to self-isolate until diagnostic test results are received.

If results are positive for COVID-19, the student, staff or faculty will be legally isolated by CCHD. A full case investigation will be completed and CCHD will work with the school to identify contacts.

If results are negative or an alternative diagnosis is provided, the individual may return to in-person learning or work. Districts are encouraged to use their established return-to-school protocols. (Please note, if this individual is a quarantined contact in an active case, testing negative does not remove quarantine restrictions.) Documentation of the alternative diagnosis should be kept on file, especially if the condition is chronic and may reoccur.

If testing is not sought or no alternative diagnosis is provided, the individual should remain out of school until 10 days past symptom onset. The individual should wear a face covering, indoors and outdoors, for 14 days from symptom onset.

Identifying Contacts

CCHD will continue to quarantine close contacts identified in school cases. The following definition of close contact will be used:

A close contact will be defined as someone who was: within 6 feet or less of the positive case for a total of 15 minutes or more. Time is cumulative for the day. The 6 feet perimeter may include next to, in front of, or behind the positive case. All settings will be considered- classroom, cafeteria, gymnasium, bus, etc.

*CCHD will make **no exception** for mask wearing contacts within 6 feet or less of a positive case as it is impossible to verify and assure well- fitting face coverings were worn appropriately by both parties for the entire exposure.*

For band/chorus, gym and sports, if activities occur outdoors, the above definition of a contact will be used. However, if band/ chorus, gym and sports activities occur indoors, a close contact will be

defined as someone who was: within 12 feet or less of the positive case for a total 15 minutes or more. Time is cumulative for the day.

*In light of limited classroom spread of COVID-19 during the 2020-21 school year and the commitment of local school districts (as detailed in the CVES CSO Agreements for Reopening) to continue other mitigation methods (face coverings, distancing, screening, disinfection, sufficient ventilation, etc.), CCHD will **not** quarantine proximate contacts in school cases at this time. However, if classroom/school setting clusters are identified, CCHD may request proximate contacts to also be identified to best prevent additional spread. If repeated clusters in school settings are being seen, CCHD will adjust the above definition of a “contact” to once again include close and proximate contacts for all school cases.*

When requested, a proximate contact will be defined as someone who was: beyond six feet from the positive case but within a designated space, or multiple spaces, for one hour or more. Time is cumulative for the day. All settings will be considered- classroom, cafeteria, gymnasium, bus, etc.

Additional Clarifying Information for Identifying Contacts and Managing Vaccinated Contacts

If school staff are unable to determine duration of exposure, CCHD recommends erring on the side of caution and identifying student or staff as a contact.

*Identified contacts **MUST** submitted to CCHD utilizing the revised **School Contact Tracing Template** to expedite processing. Contact information must include minimally: name, DOB, phone number, Parent name, Parent email and date of last exposure.*

Fully vaccinated, asymptomatic contacts will not be legally mandated to quarantine but these individuals should be reported to CCHD so vaccination and symptom status can be verified.

If schools are willing and interested in taking on this verification process, CCHD will work with school administration to review the district’s approach to this process. It is recommended, vaccinated, asymptomatic contacts:

- *Fully mask around others, indoors and outdoors, for 14 days following exposure.*
- *Seek testing 3-5 days following exposure.*
- *Monitor themselves for symptoms for 14 days following exposure.*

Unvaccinated contacts will be legally mandated to quarantine for 10 days, as long as the individual remains asymptomatic. Quarantine will be extended to 14 days for any contact that experiences symptoms during quarantine and they will be encouraged to seek testing.

CCHD will monitor effectiveness of the above strategies, adjusting its approach based on outcomes, community experience and any release of updated recommendations from the NYS Department of Health.

Resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>

<http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/back-school/nysed-health-and-safety-guide-for-the-2021-2022-school-year.pdf>

<https://www.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>

Last updated September 7th, 2021

Daily Screening

- Completed at home by family
- Students and staff who are ill should remain home
- Students will be temperature checked upon entry
- Staff attestations will be completed when individually swiping in to a building

Full Remote Option

- Not required and not provided by the school district
- May be requested in circumstances that include a Medical Accommodation that is submitted by a student's Medical Professional and is accepted by the District's Medical Officer or School Physician

Athletics

- Outdoor sports do not require masking
- Indoor sports require masking
- Spectators required to mask at all indoor events
- Spectators - 3 feet physical distancing where practical
- Spectators – should maintain groupings by household while attending

Vaccinations

- All eligible students and staff are encouraged to be vaccinated

Cleaning

- All building cleaning procedures will remain in place

Remember that all of the listed items are subject to change based on official guidance and regional transmission rates.