

Dear Parent/Guardian of _____:

Your student has been identified as a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case within the school. Your student will need to follow quarantine protocol and monitor for any symptoms of COVID-19. Being placed in quarantine means your child **should not leave the household** unless it is to seek medical evaluation. Any non-household members should not enter the home, as this could potentially expose them as well.

Your child should quarantine for 14 days after the last date of exposure to the positive case. The date of last exposure is counted as "Day 0".

Your child's release from quarantine date has been calculated to be _____

On the date listed above, if your child is asymptomatic, they may return to school and normal activities outside of the home.

There may be other options available for your student to return to the classroom earlier than 14 days and is determined on an individual basis. **If requesting a modified quarantine period, it must be communicated with the School Nurse and may require approval by the McHenry County Department of Health. These options are listed below:

- Option 2: Quarantine for 10 calendar days post exposure to a positive COVID-19 case. The following protocol **must** be followed for this option:
 - The child must be checked daily and maintain **no symptoms** of COVID-19 during daily monitoring
 - The local health department may require PCR testing to be performed.
 - The student must be able to maintain physical distancing and masking at all times.
 - This is only acceptable for return to class, not extracurricular activities.

- Option 3: Quarantine period may be reduced to 7 calendar days post exposure if:
 - No symptoms developed during daily monitoring **AND** the student has a negative COVID diagnostic test (**PCR, not rapid**) that was collected on/after day 5 post exposure.
 - You are responsible for providing a copy of the negative results **prior** to your student returning to the classroom
 - The student must be able to maintain physical distancing and masking at all times when returning to school.
 - This is only acceptable for return to class, not extracurricular activities.

- Option 4: Test-to-Stay Strategy:

-If close contact is tested on days one, three, five, and seven from date of exposure by a PCR, rapid antigen or molecular test, that student is permitted to remain in the classroom as long as the results are negative. Results must be obtained within 24 hours from specimen collection, or this will no longer be an option. Date of last exposure is considered day 0. MCDH will be notified of all students that have successfully completed testing and have remained negative.

- While McHenry County is in high transmission of COVID-19, students cannot use this option to return to high-risk extracurricular activities. Students can use this option to return to the classroom and extracurricular activities that are not considered high risk.

If any symptoms develop during or after quarantine, the student should immediately be isolated in the home and the local health department or their healthcare provider should be contacted. The health department can provide guidance on how to safely quarantine and isolate within the household.

Available testing locations:

Doctors Clinical Lab Richmond- Free rapid and PCR testing for all individuals
Rt. 12 in Richmond across from Nippersink Middle School
Monday-Friday 9-7
Saturday and Sunday 9-3
No appointment necessary; can pre register at DCLtesting.com

Curative Testing in McHenry (RT-PCR testing)- Free for all individuals
1900 N. Richmond Rd. (Old Kmart building)
McHenry IL 60051
Make an appointment their website: curative.com/sites/29762

Walgreens of Antioch- Free PCR testing available

Walgreens of Spring Grove- Free Rapid testing