



EAST PALESTINE CITY SCHOOLS

200 WEST NORTH AVENUE EAST PALESTINE, OHIO 44413
Mr. Chris Neifer, Superintendent (PHONE) 330 426-4191

New Quarantine/ Exclusion Guidelines Released

Based on new guidelines that were released on 10/25/2021 from the Ohio Department of Health, East Palestine City Schools will end the requirement of facial coverings beginning on 11/1/2021 for staff and students. We continue to strongly recommend the daily use of facial coverings as a way to lessen the continued spread of Covid-19.

The new guidelines are as follows:

Mask to Stay

Direct contacts, regardless of vaccine or masking status, may remain in the classroom environment if they do the following:

- Wear a mask for 14 days after their last date of exposure.
- Self-monitor, or parent-monitor, for symptoms of Covid-19
- Isolate and get tested if they start to experience symptoms associated with Covid-19 (regardless of severity)
- Consistent with guidance for others quarantining in lower-risk environments, students and staff may discontinue these quarantine procedures after seven days- if they don't develop symptoms and test negative between days 5-7.

Test to Play

Asymptomatic contacts may continue to participate in extracurricular activities if they do the following:

- Wear a mask when able (This includes transportation; locker rooms; sitting/standing on sidelines; and anytime the mask will not interfere with breathing, the activity, or create a safety hazard.)
- Test on initial notification of exposure to Covid-19.
- Test again on days 5-7. If they are negative at this time, they will test out of the quarantine.

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Please note: tests must be proctored and be SARS-CoV-2 viral (PCR or antigen) tests. Only monitored tests will be accepted. Please call the building principal or Athletic Director with questions.

If choosing to self-quarantine and not follow the above guidelines, students/ staff will be excluded for the entire duration of the quarantine period but can follow the above guidelines for testing for an early return on day 8.

Parents, students, and staff should be aware that the new guidelines only apply to exposure in the classroom or school environment. All other exposures, outside of the school setting will be handled by the health department or PCG with normal quarantining guidelines.

Full guidelines can be found at the following link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kK16EnGj1QQ1p9IEhJaZZh_-GloxNVEI/view?usp=sharing

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