



January 12, 2022

Dear Center Cass Families -

Below are the updated COVID-19 regulations via a new Executive Order, IDPH Guidelines, and ISBE Recommendation.

New Executive Order - Attached [here](#).

IDPH Guidance - Attached [here](#).

ISBE Recommendation - Attached [here](#).

The biggest change in the IDPH Guidance is the adoption of a shortened quarantine for students. A few important requirements have to be met in order to use the 5-day quarantine. A student is allowed back on **Day 6** if they:

- A) Are fever free without vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours. Students need to be healthy for a day while at home before they can come back to school. So, if the student is healthy on Day 5, then the student can return Day 6. *Reminder: Day 0 for symptomatic students is the first day of symptoms. For asymptomatic students, Day 0 is the date specimen of positive result was collected.*
- B) Wear their fitted mask up over their nose/mouth at all times (including recess until after Day 10). Students who have difficulty keeping their masks up over their noses will not be able to participate in the shortened quarantine.
- C) Stay six feet away from others during lunch or any other time the mask is removed. Students are spaced six feet apart at lunch, however, some students need to be reminded to remain 6 feet apart. If students are unable to remain distanced at lunch, they will not be able to participate in the shortened quarantine, and will be sent home.
- D) Are a spectator during high risk activities during Day 6-10, meaning, they may not be able to perform in band, chorus, PE, or extra-curricular activities (depending on the nature of the activity). They are expected to attend.

NOTE: A negative test result is **not** required to return on Day 6 from being COVID positive or being a close contact if the above letters A-D are followed. Other Important Guidance includes:

- Vaccinated students who are close contacts do not need to quarantine if they remain asymptomatic.
- Non-vaccinated students who are close contacts need to quarantine a minimum of 5 days. If the student is unable to meet the requirements above for a shortened quarantine, they will need to quarantine for 10 days.
- Students identified as In-School Close Contacts participating in the Test to Stay (TTS) Program who remain negative can end TTS testing after a negative test result on Day 5. This change moves the amount of tests required from 4 to 2.

If your child is on a 10-day quarantine period and has been asymptomatic, please contact the School Nurse. You must have clearance from the School Nurse to return to in-person learning. In addition, we are updating our nurse's portal in our student management system to enter vaccination and booster dates. The system is not ready for data entry thus the nurse will work with each parent on their individual situation based on their child's vaccination status and record.

If students, employees, and parents work together, the new guidance can allow a faster return to in-person learning while still maintaining a safe environment for all. Please feel free to contact me with questions.

Sincerely –

Dr. Wise