

River Forest Community School Corporation

CDC/ISDH Updated Back to School Guidelines for K-12 Schools Updated February 28, 2022

On February 23, 2022, we began to operate as a mask optional school. According to the ISDH, this means mask wearing is optional for all students, teachers, and staff in the school, as well as the classroom. Per the CDC, it is now optional for students and persons riding a school bus to wear a mask. <https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/masks/mask-travel-guidance.html>

Following are the updated Covid-19 guidelines for Indiana schools effective February 23, 2022, regardless of mask requirements:

- **Schools will NO longer be reporting positive cases to the Indiana State Department of Health as they are removing their reporting system on February 23, 2022.**
- **It is no longer recommended to contact trace or social distance in the schools or classroom. It will be up to the positive individual to notify their close contacts and may use www.tellyourcontacts.org.**

If a student, teacher, or staff member tests positive for Covid-19:

- Stay home for 5 days from the start of symptom onset OR, if asymptomatic, 5 days from the day of the positive test. A negative test or doctor's note is not required to return to school or work.
- May return Day 6 if asymptomatic or symptoms are resolving and fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication.
- Should remain masked in the classroom for Days 6-10.
- If a student is unable to mask properly in the classroom or on the bus, they must isolate for the full 7 days, returning to school on Day 8.
- Students may resume extracurricular activities on Day 6, if all of the above conditions are met and the student should wear a mask properly at all times, except while actively performing.

If a student, teacher, or staff member is exposed to someone with Covid-19 in or outside of the classroom, including home contacts and extra-curricular activities:

- **Regardless of vaccination status or mask requirement status**
 - If asymptomatic, remain in school.
 - If a home contact, isolate as much as possible from the positive contact, as well as to continue to wear a mask as much as possible in the household.
 - If symptoms develop, stay home. It is recommended to get tested. If positive, stay home and follow isolation guidelines. If negative, may return to school when symptoms have resolved for 24 hours. If not tested, you may return if symptoms are resolving and fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication.