



IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (DPI)

August 26, 2022

Dear WUSD Families and Staff:

The health and safety of our Watertown Unified School District staff, students, families and community is of utmost importance. Over the past two and a half years, the WUSD communicated guidelines and procedures based on the ever-changing status and impact COVID-19 had on our students, families, staff and community.

Recently, the CDC published new guidance for schools as districts prepare to begin the new school year. The purpose of this guidance is to minimize the impact of COVID-19 on individuals, communities, and health care systems. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (WI DPI) also issued guidance that was supportive of these new CDC guidelines.

In response to this, the WUSD will treat COVID-19 as any other communicable disease as outlined in Board policies 4133 and 5414 Communicable Diseases and 4133.1 and 5414.1 Communicable Diseases Procedures. Due to the ever-changing status of COVID-19, and in the event of increased spread, the WUSD, in cooperation with local health officials, will implement additional safety measures if necessary to minimize the spread of any infectious disease.

The WUSD asks staff, parents, guardians, or caregivers to monitor their children and themselves for signs of illness every day. As always, students and staff who are sick should not attend school or work.

Families should be aware of the following symptoms:

- Fever (100.0° Fahrenheit or higher), chills, or shaking chills
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell
- Muscle aches or body aches
- Cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)
- Sore throat, when in combination with other symptoms
- Nausea, vomiting, when in combination with other symptoms
- Headache, when in combination with other symptoms
- Fatigue, when in combination with other symptoms
- Nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes, such as allergies), when in combination with other symptoms



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Anyone experiencing symptoms of illness should stay home from school. If experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, they should also get tested for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status.

When a student or staff member can return to school or work will depend on the duration of illness, type of symptoms, laboratory testing for COVID-19 or other illnesses, or other medical diagnosis. As always, students who have a fever over 100.0° Fahrenheit or vomiting should be symptom free for 24 hours without medication before returning to school. Students and staff should follow the recommendation of their medical provider and/or the public health department as it relates to isolation or quarantine guidelines due to COVID-19 or any other illness. Students and staff should consider influenza and COVID-19 vaccinations, as well as the required school immunizations in accordance to the Wisconsin Student Immunization Law.

The WUSD will continue to monitor all communicable diseases and will implement mitigation strategies to prevent and minimize infectious diseases within the school setting. We will continue to be in touch with our families if changes need to be made due to local conditions or changes from local, state or federal agencies.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your building administrator.

Sincerely,

Lynn Gilbert, BSN, RN, NCSN  
WUSD Nurse

Dr. Jarred Burke, Ed.D.  
Superintendent