

Mahomet-Seymour Covid-19 Return to School Health Plan for Families

The purpose of this policy is to outline health guidelines as they pertain to re-opening of Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3 after the Covid-19 school closures. These guidelines are designed to ensure and promote the safety, health, and welfare of our community, in accordance with Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) recommendations. Some components of this document may be altered to reflect current data and recommendations as new guidelines are posted.

Students, faculty and staff will be required to stay home if they are sick. If an individual presents to school with the following symptoms, they will be sent home until return to school criteria (See #2 below) is met. Per IDPH-ISBE guidelines posted July 23, 2020, all students, staff and visitors will undergo symptom and temperature screening prior to entering the building.

1. Symptoms Requiring Absence

- a. COVID-19 like symptoms or exposure to COVID-19, the individual **will be sent home**. Symptoms may include sore throat, loss of taste/smell, headache, fatigue, fever, cough, shortness of breath, muscle aches, vomiting, diarrhea or abdominal pain.
 - i. Direct affected staff member or parent/guardian of affected student to call the IDPH COVID-19 hotline at 1-800-889-3931, or the Champaign-Urbana Public Health Department (C-UPHD) hotline at (217) 239-7877 for guidance regarding symptoms to determine if testing for COVID-19 is warranted.
- b. Exposure to COVID-19
 - i. Individuals must let the District nurse know if they have been in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19.
- c. Waiting on COVID test results
- d. Fever/chills/generalized body aches
 - i. Fever typically constitutes 100.4 degrees or higher. However, in light of recent events, a temperature of 99.5 degrees Fahrenheit with symptoms likely indicates an acute illness, and the individual will be sent home.
- e. Sore Throat with fever over 99.5 or visibly swollen glands.
- f. Consistent coughing with pain or fever.
- g. The first 24 hours of antibiotic treatment for contagious illness (strep throat, pink eye, etc.).
- h. Active vomiting or diarrhea.

2. When to Return

- a. **COVID-19 like symptoms:** (Per IDPH and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines).
- i. **Untested with COVID-19 symptoms:**
 1. At least 24 hours have passed with no fever, without use of fever reducing medications, and improvement of symptoms.
AND
 2. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared if known or suspected exposure.
 - ii. **Tested positive with symptoms:**
 1. At least 10 days have passed since first symptoms
 2. At least 24 hours have passed with no fever, without use of fever reducing medications, and improvement of symptoms.
AND
 3. Communication to MS-District from C-UPHD authorizing safe to return to school, or school related activities.
 - iii. **Tested positive without symptoms:**
 1. At least 10 days have passed since the date of first positive test, and no symptoms have developed.
AND
 2. Communication to MS-District from C-UPHD authorizing safe to return to school, or school related activities.
 - iv. **Exposure to COVID-19**
 1. 10 days have passed since date of exposure, with no onset of symptoms (length of time during which symptoms will appear). ***If the exposure was from a member of your household, an additional 10 days have passed since the positive person was released from quarantine.***
AND
 2. Communication to MS-District from C-UPHD authorizing safe to return to school, or school related activities, or a negative test done at school.

Per IDPH guidance received on 1/4/21, 7-day early release from quarantine is NOT recommended for daycares or K-12 students. We will therefore be enforcing the full 10 day quarantine period for students exposed to COVID-19.

In addition, it is important that you please continue to monitor for symptoms for 14 days after exposure, as that is still the current quarantine recommendation from the CDC.

- b. **Other symptoms/non-COVID illness:**
- i. At least 24 hours have passed with no fever, without use of fever reducing medications.
 - ii. After 24 hours on antibiotics.
 - iii. After 24 hours since last episode of vomiting or diarrhea.
 - iv. With doctor's note of clearance.

3. Travel

- a. It is recommended by C-UPHD that anyone who has travelled out of state, or within Illinois to an area with increased cases of COVID-19 should be tested the day they return, and again 4 days later. They should stay home until both tests return negative. CDC states that local public health guidelines and travel restrictions should be followed. Please see the updated guideline document dated 1/29/21

4. Nonpharmacological Intervention Recommendations for Communicable Disease

- a. Stay home when you are sick.
- b. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- c. Cover your cough or sneeze with your elbow or a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Wash your hands with soap and water.
- d. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- e. Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds, and dry them
- f. If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer.
- g. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using regular household cleaning sprays or wipes (ex: toys, desks, door handles, counters).
- h. Ensure all vaccines are up to date.
- i. Promote non-contact methods of greeting.
- j. Practice physical distancing (stay at least 6 feet away from other people).
- k. Wear a mask or face covering when distancing is not possible. Vented masks and fleece neck gators are NOT effective, and therefore not acceptable.

5. When to wear a mask/face covering

- a. Per ISBE Return to School guidance, face coverings **must be worn at all times**, by both students and staff, while in the school building
- b. When walking into or out of the building with other students (i.e.: before/after school).
- c. While riding the bus.
- d. In public, anytime it is not possible to stay at least 6 feet away from other people.

If it has been determined that your student cannot wear a mask, a doctor's note stating the medical reason will be required. Reusable clear face shields will be available for students who are unable to wear a mask, along with other mitigation strategies to keep both staff and students safe.

6. Communicable Disease Monitoring

- a. Parents must record symptoms in Skyward under comments when students entered for absence or must relay symptoms to the office staff if calling a student in sick. This is necessary for illness tracking as required by IDPH.
- b. Non-authorized visitors will not be allowed into the buildings.
- c. Authorized visitors must sign in and wear a mask or face covering while in the building.
- d. Hand sanitizer will be provided at each sign in kiosk, and 6ft distance must be maintained between individuals.

Sources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/end-home-isolation.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html>

<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/IDPH-ISBE-Summer-Programs-Guidance.pdf>

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This document will continue to be updated as new information is provided by the Centers for Disease Control, Champaign-Urbana Public Health District, Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois State Board of Education