



Dear Andrew Families and Community Members,

Today, Andrew CSD administration learned that a member of our school community tested positive for Covid-19. Upon learning this information we consulted with our school nurse and our local health department. Together, we determined that one of our second grade classes will need to quarantine for the next two weeks. All other close contacts of the individual who tested positive have already been contacted and will be taking the necessary precautions.

Fortunately, our school team has spent the last couple of weeks doing everything in our power to prepare for a scenario like this. In this instance, one of our second grade classes will begin online learning for the next two weeks. Other than that shift, school will remain open and we will continue serving all students in our hybrid model.

We know this may spark many questions. Please know that we are here to talk through any thoughts or concerns you may have. Below, you will find answers to many of the questions that you may have. If you have additional questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for the trust you place in us to navigate these difficult situations. The health and safety of our staff and students is our number one priority.

Covid-19 Q & A

Covid-19 is still spreading in Iowa communities-which means it is still a threat to your health and the health of your family. The virus is still new, and there is always new information coming out about it. We are going to give you the best information we have at this time.



What are the symptoms of Covid-19?

High Risk Symptoms

- *Fever 100.4 or greater
- *Onset of a new cough
- *New loss of taste or smell
- *Short of breath
- *Difficulty Breathing

Low Risk Symptoms

- *Chills
- *Headache
- *Sore Throat
- *Diarrhea
- *Fatigue/Tired
- *Congestion/Runny Nose
- *Nausea/Vomiting
- *Muscle or body ache

As we learn more about the symptoms of Covid-19 we will continue to update the list. For the most up to date list visit www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/symptoms.html

What steps can I take to prevent my student from getting Covid-19?

You can talk with your student about taking steps everyday to prevent getting sick.

- Help them wash their hands often or demonstrate the proper way to wash your hands for 20 seconds using soap and warm water.
- Help them avoid close contact with people who are sick, even inside your own home.
- Remind them to stay 6 feet apart from other people
- Cover mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when they are around others
- Teach your student to clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily (especially phones and remote controls)
- Help your student monitor their health-look for symptoms and take temperature

How long does it take for symptoms to start?

It can take up to 14 days for people with Covid-19 to start showing symptoms. Some people have very mild symptoms. Some people become really sick and some people with Covid-19 do not get sick at all.

Why does my student need to stay home?

Your student should stay home if they have symptoms of Covid-19, have been tested for Covid-19 (while waiting for test results) or have been exposed to someone who tests positive for Covid-19.

Keeping ill students, and students who have been exposed to Covid away from others, we can stop the spread of the virus. It is possible for people who do not have symptoms to spread the virus to others.

What does isolation and quarantine mean?

These are terms that public health scientists use to describe why someone needs to stay home. They are public safety tools that have been around for centuries to stop the spread of germs.

Isolation means keeping sick people away from healthy people. This usually means that the sick person rests in their own bedroom or area of their home and keeps away from everyone else as best as they can.

Quarantine means separating people who were exposed to a sick person away from others. Because someone can spread Covid-19 before they have symptoms, quarantine stops them from accidentally spreading the virus to other healthy people. Usually people who are in quarantine stay at home and avoid being around others.

How do I know if my student was around someone who was sick?

The school district is working closely with the local County Public Health Department which has a system to tell whether someone should stay home. The Public Health Department or the school will contact you and give you instructions if your student falls into that group.

What is a “Close Contact”?

Close contact- is defined as being within 6 feet of someone for 15 consecutive minutes. Being in close contact with someone who is positive for Covid-19 puts you at a higher risk of getting Covid-19. (Other examples of close contact are: sharing the same drinking glass or straw, sharing the same eating utensil, touching the person or things that may have that person’s germs on them, like a dirty tissue, or the person coughing or sneezing on you).

Casual contact-is defined as passing by someone briefly. A casual contact puts you at a lower risk of getting Covid-19

What if my student came in “close contact” with someone who tested positive for Covid-19?

Your student should stay home for 14 days since the last time they were around that person to see if they develop symptoms. If they do get symptoms, then:

1. Call your students doctor
2. Ask to have your student tested
3. Follow the doctor’s instructions
4. Stay in quarantine until the test results are given to you.

If there are other children in our home who do not have symptoms should they stay home too, or continue going to school?

Your other students can continue to go to school/work. If the child who was in close contact gets sick, then the other students need to stay home.

How long does my student need to stay home if they test positive OR a doctor says they likely have Covid-19?

If your student has symptoms they should stay at home and away from others as much as possible until all three of these criteria have been met:

1. At least 10 days have passed since their symptoms started and:

2. They haven't had a fever (100.4 F or greater) in at least 24 hours without using any medications to lower fever and:
3. Their symptoms are improving.

What if my student becomes sick but is not tested for Covid-19?

Your student should stay home in isolation until they are feeling better and all of the following criteria have been met:

1. At least 10 days have passed since their symptoms started and:
2. They have not had a fever (100.4 F or greater) in at least 24 hours without the use of any medications to lower the fever and:
3. All of their symptoms have resolved.

What if my student becomes sick but tests negative for Covid-19?

They should stay home until they are feeling better and they have not had any fever for at least 24 hours without the use of any medications to lower the fever.

If they visit a doctor and they tell you your student has something other than Covid-19 (such as influenza or strep throat) then you should:

1. Follow your Doctor's guidelines and:
2. When your student does return to school, bring a doctor's note with them.

What do I do if I cannot take 14 days off to stay home with my student?

You can call 211 for support services.

If you have any questions about Covid-19 or any other concerns you can call 211. They can answer questions concerning mental health, food, diseases and many, many other topics.