

To our Parents, Guardians, and students,

The IDPH COVID-19 Exclusion Guidance Document must be followed by Gallatin County CUSD 7 nurses.

If any of the following symptoms are present in a student the IDPH guidelines are clear that you stay home from school: Fever (100.4 or higher), headache, shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, congestion, runny nose, new loss of taste or smell, nausea, fatigue, muscle or body aches. If your child does have one or more of these symptoms, all siblings and household members must be kept home from school as well. All school work may be done virtually and they will not be counted as absent. Please contact the school nurse if your child has a symptom so that the school is aware and can make contact with you to make sure the proper documents are received. The phone number for the nurse office is (618) 272-3821 extension 1239.

There are certain criteria also established by IDPH that must be met before the student may return to the school building.

- The child who is experiencing a possible COVID symptom must be evaluated by a healthcare provider and if a COVID test is performed the child and siblings must not return to school until a lab confirmed negative test result is obtained by the school nurse.
- If the healthcare provider does not COVID test, we can accept a healthcare provider's note (with date to return) with an alternative diagnosis listed.
- We will need the healthcare provider note or negative lab confirmed COVID test in hand at the school before the child/siblings return to school.
- The school nurse will contact the parents when these documents are received and clear the children to return to school.
- If you choose to not have your child evaluated by a healthcare provider, they will need to stay home from school for 10 calendar days before they return. (Also all siblings will need to stay home) At the end of the 10 days we will need a note from the parent/guardian documenting that the ill child and/or household contacts are fever free without fever-reducing meds and symptoms have improved.
- Students must be fever free for 48 hours without fever-reducing medications before returning to school.
- Our fax # is 272-4101. The nurse's email addresses may be found on the school website to email documentation if that is preferred.

We ask for your patience, understanding, and kindness; our nurses are following the Illinois State Board of Education and Illinois Department of Public Health Guidelines.