



LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education

Jeremy Buckle

Kevin Gahm

Troy A. Gahm

David Flowers

Matthew Perkins

Scott Rolfe

Superintendent

Frieda Cyrus

Treasurer

September 1, 2020

Dear Valley School District Community,

I am writing to inform you that an employee who works at **Valley Middle School** has recently had close contact with an individual who has COVID-19. The staff member is self-quarantining at home, has displayed no symptoms of the virus and has not tested positive for the virus. Due to privacy laws, we cannot disclose further information about the employee. Whenever a person has recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19, they must quarantine and may not return until they meet the CDC's criteria for return to work—which currently provides that the individual should stay home for 14 days after his/her last contact with the person who has COVID-19.

The local health department has been notified of this situation. Based on guidance from the health department and other agencies, **Valley Middle School** has been deeply sanitized and it has not been closed. District employees and students should continue to follow CDC guidelines and recommendations, and should continue to practice social distancing.

As a precaution, we encourage you to monitor your health, follow CDC guidelines, and contact your doctor if you develop COVID-19 symptoms.

The District is continuing to monitor this situation. We will provide additional information when permissible. We hope our employee remains well.

Sincerely,

Superintendent

"Education is our Chief Concern"

1821 St. Rt. 728 • Lucasville, OH 45648

Phone (740) 259-3115 • Fax (740) 259-2314

Valley

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September 1, 2020

Dear Valley School District Community,

I am writing to inform you that an employee who works at the **Valley Middle School** has tested positive for COVID-19. Due to privacy laws, we cannot disclose further information about the employee. Whenever a person has a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case, they must quarantine per the CDC and local health department guidelines and may not return until they meet the CDC's criteria for returning to school.

The local health department has been notified of this situation. We are asking the health department to assist in conducting contact tracing to identify individuals who had close contact with the employee who tested positive. If your child had close contact with this employee, you will be contacted by the health department and/or the District and provided instructions for self-care and any necessary quarantine period. Based on guidance from the health department and other agencies, **Valley Middle School** has been deeply sanitized and it has been **not been closed**. District employees and students should continue to follow CDC guidelines and recommendations, and should continue to practice social distancing.

Based on the information we have received, the end of the 14-day incubation period for anyone possibly exposed to the employee at VMS is September 6, 2020.

As a precaution, we encourage you to monitor your health, follow CDC guidelines, and contact your doctor if you develop COVID-19 symptoms.

The District is continuing to monitor this situation. We will provide additional information when permissible. We hope our employee has a successful recovery.

Sincerely,

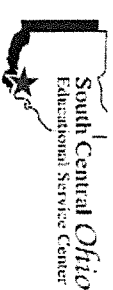
Superintendent

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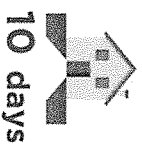
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COVID-19: When a student, faculty or staff member can return to school



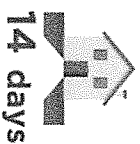
Individual	Symptomatic	No Symptoms
Tested with Alternate Explanation (strep, influenza, etc. as determined by provider)	May return to school after 24 hours resolution of fever AND note (including email and fax) from provider stating the individual has an alternate diagnosis and the provider believes it's appropriate for the patient to return to school.	N/A
Not Tested WITHOUT Alternate Explanation	Must remain home for at least 10 days from the first day symptoms appeared AND 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicine and with improvement of respiratory symptoms	N/A
Tested and Negative	If no alternative explanation, <i>isolate</i> for at least 10 days from the first day of symptoms appeared AND 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medications and with improvement of respiratory symptoms. The test may have been a false negative. The individual can return to school if tested negative AND with a note from the provider stating they believe the patient to have an alternate diagnosis and it's appropriate to return to school.	May proceed with attending school. EXCEPTION: If the child is a known close contact* must complete a 14-day <i>quarantine</i> , even if test results are negative for COVID-19 (Note: close contact is within 6 feet of a confirmed case for more than 15 minutes)
Tested and Positive	Must remain home in <i>isolation</i> for at least 10 days from the date symptoms began AND 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medications and improvement of respiratory symptoms.	<i>Isolate</i> at home for 10 days from the day the test was taken. <i>*If the individual develops symptoms, then isolation time starts on day 1 of symptoms (see symptomatic tests positive).</i>
Close Contact (Within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes of someone with confirmed COVID-19)	N/A If an individual becomes symptomatic, refer to the symptomatic scenarios. The individual must <i>quarantine</i> for 14 days after contact with the COVID-19 Positive Person even if the student has an alternate diagnosis for symptoms.	<i>Quarantine</i> for 14 days before returning to school. Must remain symptom-free. If an individual develops symptoms, then refer to the symptomatic scenarios.

Note: QUARANTINE keeps someone who was in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 away from others
ISOLATION keeps someone who is sick or tested positive for COVID-19 without symptoms from others, even in their own home



*Student gets tested for COVID-19 at a testing event put on by a community organization. The student was symptom-free when he/she got the test. The test comes back positive. The student must *isolate* and stay symptom-free for 10 days after the date he/she took the test.

*Student get tested for COVID-symptom-free when he/she got the date she took the test. Four *isolate* at home for at least 10 improvement in respiratory

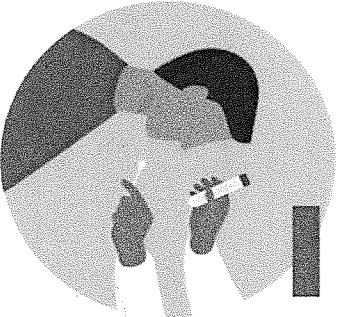


19 at a testing event put on by a community organization. The student was the test. The test comes back positive. The student states *isolating* for 10 days after days into his/her *isolation*, he/she develops a fever or cough. He/She must now days **AND** 24 hours fever-free without fever reducing medicine and with symptoms. The student ends up *isolating* at home for 14 days.

*Student other school if returning siblings



tests positive and has three siblings in the home or as close contacts who attend schools. If the siblings have symptoms, they should be tested and report to that results are positive. Otherwise, siblings should *quarantine* for 14 days before to school. Contacts of the siblings are not considered a close contact unless the test positive themselves. (We do not *isolate* contacts of contacts)



*Student has a fever, cough, headache and loss of taste and smell. The student goes to get tested and the test is negative. There is at least a 30% chance of having a false negative test. Therefore, it would still be required that this student *isolate* at home for at least 10 days **AND** 24 symptoms.

*Student has a fever and sore throat and a history of and exam and believes the patient has strep throat and does not fever-free with a note



from her provider stating she may

return to school.

hours fever-free without medication and with reduction in respiratory getting strep throat. Student sees his/her provider, who does a strep test have COVID-19. The student may return to school after 24 hours



*Student has fever, cough, shortness of breath, and/or loss of taste and smell. His/her parents do not want to get him/her tested for COVID-19. Highly recommend that the student gets tested so that the proper contact tracing can be done. The student will need to *isolate* at home for at least 10 days **AND** go 24 hours fever-free without use of medication and have a reduction in respiratory symptoms. Additionally, if the school is suspicious that the student has COVID-19, the school could do contact tracing and monitoring for others with symptoms.

July 27, 2020

To the concerned parents, guardians and students of Scioto County,

We are living in unprecedented times.

In the past we would, really without thinking of any ill effects, send our children to in person school. This year is different. With the COVID-19 pandemic sweeping across our nation and area, each parent, guardian, student and staff member needs to consider their personal risk of getting COVID-19. Currently there is a risk of severe illness for all, but the severity of that risk increases with age and other illness. Hospitalizations and death from COVID-19 increase with age. If you are over the age of 65, and are concerned about your exposure from a child bringing home this disease, please consider remote learning. If you are a parent or guardian over the age of 60 with any illnesses like high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, obesity, cancer, lung disease, kidney disease, please consider remote learning for your child.

As Health Commissioner of Scioto County, I have been and will continue to work closely with the superintendents of all county schools. However, we anticipate exposure and possible transmission of COVID-19 in our schools. We are doing all we can to prevent this but this virus is very difficult to stop. All of us are in possession of very powerful tools to prevent this virus. Wearing a mask, frequent hand washing and staying 6 feet apart, STOP THIS VIRUS!

Therefore, I want everyone to seriously consider their personal risks and benefits of sending their children to school. If you decide that in person school is in the best interest of you and your children, PLEASE FOLLOW ALL THE GUIDELINES recommended by local school officials. I believe we can educate our children and prevent spread of this deadly virus but we need everyone to MASK UP, STAY 6 FEET APART, WASH HANDS OFTEN, and MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS.

These efforts are lifesaving!

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael E. Martin M.D.

Scioto County Health Commissioner