

Dear Students, Parents/Guardians, and Community Members,

According to our District's previous COVID-19 contact tracing guidelines with regard to students who have been identified as being in close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19, we left the decision in the hands of our parents whether or not to send their children to school as long as their children were not exhibiting any symptoms.

In order to comply with state law and with the directives set forth by the Oklahoma State Department of Education as well as our State and Local Health Departments, we are revising our guidelines as follows:

- Once the health department has concluded its contact tracing investigation and has provided the District with the names of District students and staff who they have determined to be in close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19, the District will not allow those individuals to attend classes or activities on any of our campuses until the length of their quarantine has expired. The length of the quarantine is determined solely by the health department and is not negotiable and cannot be waived with proof of a negative test.
- It is the responsibility of the health department to perform contact tracing, and until the District receives information from the health department consisting of the names of the individuals to be quarantined and the beginning and ending dates of the quarantine, the District cannot enforce the quarantine.
- Students placed in isolation or quarantine will immediately revert to distance learning.
- Students who test positive for COVID-19 must provide documentation of the test and its results upon returning from isolation.

According to state statute and the State Department of Education, all school districts in the state of Oklahoma are mandated to adhere to the following requirements;

1. The mandatory and timely reporting of positive cases to our county health department along with information such as seating charts, team and club rosters (if applicable), and contact names and phone numbers to assist with contact tracing. **See 63 O.S. § 6303 (B).**
2. To prohibit an individual having a communicable disease (such as COVID-19) from attending school. **See 63 O.S. § 1-507.**
3. The order of quarantine or isolation requirements upon individuals suspected or confirmed to be incubating (carrying) a communicable disease. **See 63 O.S. § 1-504.**

Number 3 is the mandate that pertains to the quarantining of students due to contact tracing.

We know how exasperating and, at times, heart wrenching these conditions can be. We are here to help you through the process if at all possible, regardless of your circumstances. Please contact your child's building principal or the superintendent's office if you have any questions or need our support.

Thank you,
Tim Simpson
Superintendent