

An Equal Opportunity Employer



# Hancock Public School

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**RE: COVID-19 Update**

**Greetings Hancock Families, Students and Staff,**

Thank you for your engagement and partnership as we work together to keep all of our students and staff safe. Below you will find some of the most recent frequently asked questions along with answers.

**What symptoms should I look for to determine if my child may have COVID-19?**

Please closely monitor your child for symptoms, and **keep them home if they're sick or symptomatic**. Some of the common symptoms of COVID-19 include fever of 100.4 degrees or higher, chills, new or worsening cough, difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, fatigue, headache, muscle or body aches, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.

**If my child has symptoms, what should I do and when can they return to school?**

Keep your child at home, inform the school, allow your child to rest and recover, and contact your child's healthcare provider.

**Your child can return to school when:**

- 24 hours have passed since recovery of fever (100.4 degrees or higher) without the use of fever reducing medication
- Your child no longer has symptoms
- Your child received a negative COVID-19 test if you chose to test (testing is not required); and/or
- Your child received an alternate diagnosis from their health care provider.

**My child has a pending COVID-19 test, can they return to school?**

Students that have a pending COVID-19 test should remain at home until they have received their test results and they are symptom free. If their test is negative, they can return to school 24 hours after their symptom/s have improved.

**My student tested positive, when can they return to school?**

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 can return to school when:

- it has been 10 days since symptoms first began or when they tested positive; and
- their symptoms have improved; and

- they have had no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication.

*Note: All three must happen in order for your child to return to school.*

### **How long does an individual need to isolate if they test positive?**

**If your child is tested and the results are positive, please report the positive test result to your child's school.** The school's office staff will confirm the date that your child will be able to return. A 10-day isolation period is **required** for any individual that tests positive for COVID-19 regardless of vaccination status.

### **Do family members need to quarantine when there is a positive case in the household?**

No. Although quarantine is not required; CDC and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) highly recommend the following:

- Return to school after seven days, with a negative COVID-19 test administered 5 days after exposure and no symptoms;
- Return to school after 10 days with no symptoms; or
- Return to school after 14 days with no symptoms.

If you choose to keep your student at home to quarantine, please contact the office. Student absences due to quarantine are considered excused. It is the family's responsibility to communicate with their child's teacher to determine how school work will be assigned for days missed, which may range from picking up materials at the school to delivery of materials electronically.

If your student does not quarantine and returns to school following exposure to a positive case, MDH recommends monitoring for symptoms and keeping your student home if they are sick or symptomatic. Some of the common symptoms of COVID-19 include fever of 100.4 degrees or higher, chills, new or worsening cough, difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, fatigue, headache, muscle or body aches, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.

### **What should I do if my student was notified of exposure to a positive non-household contact?**

Although quarantine is not required; CDC and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) highly recommend the following:

- Return to school after seven days, with a negative COVID-19 test administered 5 days after exposure and no symptoms;
- Return to school after 10 days with no symptoms; or
- Return to school after 14 days with no symptoms.

If you choose to keep your student at home to quarantine, please contact your student's office. Student absences due to quarantine are considered excused. It is the family's responsibility to communicate with their child's teacher to determine how school work will be assigned for days missed, which may range from picking up materials at the school.

If your student does not quarantine and returns to school following exposure, MDH **recommends** that they wear a face covering indoors for 14 days following exposure or until they receive a negative test (recommended, not required).

### **MDH Recommendations for Testing**

- Test 3-5 days after exposure to a positive individual.
- If symptomatic, keep your student home; test immediately and again 3-5 days after exposure if the first test was negative.

### **Daily Screening**

Part of the Hancock School preparedness plan is to ensure staff and students are staying home when they are feeling ill. In accordance with MDH & CDC guidelines, Hancock School requests that all parents/caregivers perform a daily health screening for their children prior to sending them to school. Please review the daily health screening below:

### **Does your child have one or more of these symptoms?**

- Fever of 100.4 degrees or higher
- Difficulty or trouble breathing
- New cough or a cough that gets worse
- New loss of taste or smell

### **If you answer “yes” to at least one of the above symptoms:**

- Keep your child home when sick; do NOT send them to school
- Allow your student to rest and recover
- Consider contacting your healthcare provider for further information and/or if symptoms worsen

### **Does your child have two or more of these symptoms?**

- Sore throat
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Chills
- Muscle Pain
- Excessive Fatigue (extreme tiredness)
- New or severe headache
- Nasal Congestion or runny nose

### **If you answered “yes” to at least two of the above symptoms:**

- Keep your child home when sick. Do NOT send them to school
- Allow your student to rest and recover
- Consider contacting your healthcare provider for further information and/or if symptoms worsen

### **When can my student return to school:**

Your child can return to school when:

- 24 hours have passed since recovery of fever without the use of fever reducing medication
- Your child has no symptoms
- Your child received a negative COVID - 19 test if you chose to test (Testing is not required) and/or
- Your child received an alternate diagnosis from their health care provider.

**Questions?**

If you have questions, comments or concerns relating to the information in this communication, please email Paul Carlson, Superintendent at [paul.carlson@hancockisd768.org](mailto:paul.carlson@hancockisd768.org).