

# Hillsboro City School District

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**Ben Teeters**  
Treasurer

January 28, 2022

Dear School Community,

Effective January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Ohio Department of Health released updated guidelines on isolation and quarantine for use in our K-12 school systems. Schools will no longer be responsible for conducting any contact tracing in the school setting, unless specifically requested by the health department in response to a cluster or outbreak. The local health department has the authority to determine what would qualify as a cluster or outbreak.

Staff, students, and student families can voluntarily self-identify as close contacts to COVID-19 cases and choose to follow existing quarantine guidelines. Students may also voluntarily choose to participate in Mask to Stay / Test to Play.

- Students and staff members who test positive for Covid-19 are still required to isolate at home for a minimum of 5 days after symptom onset. If symptoms and fever have subsided after 5 days, they may return to school, continuing to wear a face mask for an additional 5 days.
- As a school district, we are no longer required to complete contact tracing and notify parents if their child is a close contact. **We are choosing to continue this process so that parents and guardians will be aware that their child was exposed to someone with Covid-19.** Our district will work with the Highland County Health Department to define events that qualify as an “outbreak or cluster”.
- Quarantining for close contacts is no longer required. It is an option. If your child is a close contact of someone at school or outside of school, it will be your choice if he or she continues to attend school or quarantines. For those who choose to quarantine, the absences will be excused as they have been in the past. We are hopeful that especially in cases where people are continually exposed to someone with Covid-19 in the home, a choice to quarantine or at a minimum to wear a mask will be made.
- The Mask to Stay and Test to Play options are available and recommended, but not required, to students who would be considered close contacts.
- Students currently in quarantine may return to school on **Monday, January 31, 2022** if not displaying symptoms of Covid-19. Again, parents/guardians can opt for their child to complete the full quarantine period.

- Face coverings will continue to be required on all district vehicles due to a federal mandate until at least March 18, 2022.

Now more than ever, it is important for those who are ill to stay home. Please monitor your child for symptoms of COVID-19. We highly recommend students that have been exposed to a positive case to wear a mask for 10 days to prevent any further spread of illness. If your child starts to have any of the following symptoms we recommend you keep them home until their symptoms improve:

- Congestion/runny nose
- Cough
- Mild sore throat
- Headache
- Stomach ache

If your student has any of the following symptoms keep them home, if sent to school they will be sent home:

- Fever 100.0 degrees or higher orally (must be fever free for 48 hours without the use of fever reducing medication before returning to school)
- Vomiting (may return to school after being vomit free for 24 hours)
- Diarrhea (may return to school after 24 hours diarrhea free)
- Body aches or fatigue
- New loss of taste or smell

To help prevent the further spread of illness please continue to teach and encourage your children good hygiene habits:

- Wash hands often
- Cover mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing with bend of the arm (inside elbow)

Sincerely,



Mr. Davis

***“An Equal Opportunity Employer”***  
**“We provide a well-rounded experience that prepares each student to be successful in life”.**