



CHOCTAW COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Superintendent of Education

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Choctaw County
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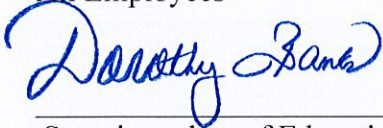
David Lewis
District 3

Vivian Heartfield
District 4

Randy Gibson
Member At large

MEMORANDUM

To: All Employees

From: 
Superintendent of Education

Date: January 6, 2022

RE: COVID-19 UPDATES

On January 5, 2022, the Alabama Department of Public Health released new information related to COVID-19 isolation and quarantine guidance in K-12 school settings. The news release stated that, “Shorter isolation (for asymptomatic and mildly ill people) for a minimum of five days, focuses on the period when a person is most infectious. This is to be followed by continued masking for an additional five days. With the recommended shorter isolation and quarantine periods, it is critical that people continue to wear well-fitting masks and take additional precautions for five days after leaving isolation or quarantine. In addition, isolation should only end if a person has been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have resolved. Children over age 2 and adults are also advised to wear a well-fitting mask when around others at home and in public after five days of quarantine or isolation. If unable to wear a mask around others, continue to isolate for 10 days.”

Below is a list of guidelines that we will use regarding COVID-19 issues:

1. If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, they will be sent home immediately or told to stay home and isolate from other people for at least five (5) full days (day 0 is the first day of symptoms or the date of the day of the positive viral test for asymptomatic persons). They should wear a mask when around others at home and in public for an additional five (5) days. People who are confirmed to have COVID-19 or are showing symptoms of COVID-19 need to isolate regardless of their vaccination status. This includes: (1) People who have a positive viral test for COVID-19, regardless of whether or not they have symptoms, and (2) People with symptoms of COVID-19, including people who are awaiting test results or have not been tested. People with symptoms should isolate even if they do not know if they have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19.

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2. A “close contact” to a person who has tested positive is required to stay home and away from other people for at least five (5) days (day 0 through day 5) after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19. The date of your exposure is considered day 0. Wear a well-fitting mask when around others at home, if possible. For 10 days after your last close contact with someone with COVID-19, watch for fever (100.4°F or greater), cough, shortness of breath, or other COVID-19 symptoms. If you develop symptoms, get tested immediately and isolate until you receive your test results. If you test positive, follow isolation recommendations. If you do not develop symptoms, get tested at least five (5) days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19. If you are unable to get a test five (5) days after last close contact with someone with COVID-19, you can leave your home after day five (5) if you have been without COVID-19 symptoms throughout the 5-day period. Wear a well-fitting mask for ten (10) days after your date of last close contact when around others at home and in public.

3. If you came into close contact with someone with COVID-19 and you are in one of the following groups, you do not need to quarantine: (1) You are ages 18 or older and have received all recommended vaccine doses, including boosters and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people, (2) You are ages 5-17 years and completed the primary series of COVID-19 vaccines, or (3) You had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days (you tested positive using a viral test). You should wear a well-fitting mask around others for ten (10) days from the date of your last close contact with someone with COVID-19 (the date of last close contact is considered day 0). Get tested at least five (5) days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19. If you test positive or develop COVID-19 symptoms, isolate from other people and follow recommendations in the Isolation section above. If you tested positive for COVID-19 with a viral test within the previous 90 days and subsequently recovered and remain without COVID-19 symptoms, you do not need to quarantine or get tested after close contact. You should wear a well-fitting mask around others for ten (10) days from the date of your last close contact with someone with COVID-19 (the date of last close contact is considered day 0).

Please make sure that the outlined steps and procedures are followed so that we can allow for continuity in receiving information and the handling of situations that arise on a day-to-day basis. I am grateful to everyone for doing their part in helping to navigate through this pandemic.

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What happened?	Vaccination Status	Should I stay home?	When can I leave home?	Should I get tested?	Should I wear a mask?
I've tested positive	I'm vaccinated	Yes for 5 days	If no symptoms, after 5 days	Not required	Yes for 5 additional days after isolation
	I'm unvaccinated	Yes for 5 days	If no symptoms, after 5 days	Not required	Yes for 5 additional days after isolation
I've been exposed to someone with COVID	I'm vaccinated and boosted	No, unless you have symptoms		Yes 5 days after exposure or if you develop symptoms	Yes for 10 days
	I've been vaccinated less than 6 months (Pfizer/Moderna)	No, unless you have symptoms		Yes 5 days after exposure or if you develop symptoms	Yes for 10 days
	I've been vaccinated less than 2 months (J & J)	No, unless you have symptoms		Yes 5 days after exposure or if you develop symptoms	Yes for 10 days
I've been exposed to someone with COVID	I was vaccinated more than 6 months ago but am not boosted (Pfizer/Moderna)	Yes for 5 days	If no symptoms, after 5 days	Yes 5 days after exposure or if you develop symptoms	Yes for 5 additional days (or 10 days if you cannot stay home)
	I was vaccinated more than 2 months ago but am not boosted (J & J)	Yes for 5 days	If no symptoms, after 5 days	Yes 5 days after exposure or if you develop symptoms	Yes for 5 additional days (or 10 days if you cannot stay home)
	I'm unvaccinated	Yes for 5 days	If no symptoms, after 5 days	Yes 5 days after exposure or if you develop symptoms	Yes for 5 additional days (or 10 days if you cannot stay home)

Chart developed by the Alabama Association of School Boards.

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