

Mineral County School District COVID-19 MITIGATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

March 7, 2022

As the world continues to respond to the COVID-10 Pandemic this plan establishes Mineral County School District's continued response, mitigation, and management efforts for COVID-19 under the help and support of the Mineral County School District Board of Trustees, the Superintendent, Site Principals, staff, volunteers and community members.



MINERAL COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
COVID-19 Guidelines During Outbreaks or Suspected
Outbreaks in School Settings

This guidance document is intended to protect the health and wellbeing of Mineral County School District (MCSD) students, staff, school communities, and families. The guidance is based on the best available evidence at the time of its creation. As new information regarding COVID-19 emerges, this guidance may be updated as needed and the date of the update will be noted on the document. This is considered a “live” document and has been created using the most up-to-date information and consultation with subject matter experts as of March 7, 2022

HEALTH CHECK

School staff should be reminded to look for symptoms of illness and send symptomatic students to the school nurse for evaluation. The school nurse should report illnesses to the principal and superintendent in a timely manner. During a school outbreak, the chief nurse should report all illnesses and exclusions to Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) staff.

Individuals with COVID-19 have reported a wide variety of symptoms, which range from mild to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus and may include:

- Fever and Chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Eye pain/burning

Determination of Cause of Illness

Determination of cause of illness is made through matching symptoms to case definition criteria, sample results and identifying known or suspected etiology. During outbreaks, the DHHS/DPBH works as quickly as possible to identify the causative agent. Sometimes there are comorbidities during an outbreak and there may be more than one type of illness to address. Case Investigators will interview cases. Samples are collected and analyzed, if possible, to identify cause of illness. It is important that contact information be provided from MCSD to DHHS/DPBH so that interviews can be conducted, and samples collected as

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necessary. It is also important to understand that isolation of the causative agent, or its markers, is the most definitive form of diagnosis and identifying cause. Therefore, individuals who seek medical attention are encouraged to have specimens collected by a clinician during the visit to confirm diagnosis.

Reporting to DHHS-DPBH

Any instances of students or staff having tested positive for COVID-19 must be reported to DHHS-DPBH immediately. In addition, any increase or clusters of students or staff reporting symptoms consistent with COVID-19 in the absence of being tested should also be reported to DHHS-DPBH immediately. Daily illness reports to DHHS-DPBH may be requested throughout the duration of the disease/outbreak investigation.

•Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH): 775-684-5911 (M-F 8:00am to 5:00pm) or, after hours 775-400-0333

EXCLUSION CRITERIA

If a student or staff member develops signs of COVID-19 as evaluated by the school nurse, separate the symptomatic person away from others, with supervision until the ill person can leave.

- While waiting to leave school, the individual with symptoms should wear a cloth face covering or mask if tolerated
- Circulate the air and clean and disinfect the areas where the person was after they leave
- Contact your local/state health department as soon as possible
- Create a list of all (students and staff) who could have been exposed (contacts)

In addition to those evaluated by the school nurse, the following exclusions of staff and students are established guidelines.

- COVID-19 Household Contacts are those who live with a confirmed COVID-19 case. Household Contacts are to remain in the household, safely separated from the case during the case's in-home isolation. Household Contacts are excluded and must isolate at home for 14 days following the recovery and release of the positive COVID-19 case. Household Contacts who develop symptoms or test positive for COVID-19 must follow the exclusion and isolation of a Symptomatic and Positive COVID-19 case from symptom onset.
- COVID-19 Close Contacts are those who spent fifteen (15) minutes or more within six (6) feet of a confirmed case when the case was considered infectious. Close Contacts are excluded for fourteen (14) days and must self-isolate for fourteen (14) days after their last exposure to the COVID-19 case. Close Contacts who are subsequently confirmed as a COVID-19 case must follow the exclusion and isolation of a COVID-19 case from first day of onset.

- Influenza like Illness (ILI) if case has ILI symptoms, a negative COVID-19 test, and no known contact with a COVID-19 case, case will be excluded until case is symptom free for twenty-four (24) hours without the use of fever-reducing medication. Otherwise, during the COVID-19 outbreak, ILI exclusion is the same as the COVID-19 exclusion.
- Gastrointestinal (GI) Illness If case has GI symptoms, a negative COVID-19 test, and no known contact with a COVID-19 case, case will be excluded until case is symptom free for forty-eight (48) hours without the use of fever-reducing or anti-diarrheal medication. Otherwise, due to overlap of GI symptoms with COVID-19 and Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) in children during the COVID-19 outbreak, GI exclusion is the same as the COVID-19 exclusion.
- Pertussis Exclusion will last a minimum of five (5) days after the first dose of prescribed antibiotic treatment and case is symptom free following treatment. Unvaccinated persons are excluded for twenty-one (21) days after an exposure. If the unvaccinated person chooses to be vaccinated, the exclusion will be shortened to fourteen (14) days following vaccination.
- Other Illness Exclusions following most recent protocols published by the CDC.

If, at any time, your child is too sick to participate, please let us know. When your child feels better, please contact the teacher for make-up work.

OTHER SITUATIONS WHERE STUDENTS MAY BE EXCLUDED FROM THE CLASSROOM:

Illnesses such as RSV, Influenza, etc.: Students with confirmed cases of other communicable diseases such as RSV, Influenza, etc, must follow the following guidelines:

- A person that is symptomatic and has a different lab-confirmed diagnosis (e.g., RSV, flu, other) with either a negative COVID-19 test or COVID-19 testing was not performed can return to school if:
 - They follow protocol for their diagnosed illness (if applicable); AND
 - At least 24 hours have passed without a fever (measured temperature of 100.4 F or greater) without the use of fever reducing medications and an improvement of other symptoms.

WHO DOES NOT NEED TO QUARANTINE:

People who have come into close contact with someone with COVID-19 and are in one of the following groups do not need to quarantine:

- Age 18 or older and have received all recommended vaccine doses, including boosters and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people.
- Students 12-17 years old who have completed their primary vaccine series but have not yet received all eligible boosters. This is to allow time for students to catch up with the latest recommendations and to minimize disruption to in-person learning.
- Age 5-11 years and completed the primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.
- Anyone who has had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days (who tested positive using a viral test, meaning a positive PCR or an antigen test. Antibody tests do not count). These individuals must still:
 - Wear a mask around others for 10 days after known exposure.

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- Be tested for COVID-19 on day 5, if possible.
- If symptoms develop, immediately self-isolate and follow the quarantine guidance for unvaccinated or under-vaccinated persons.

WHO NEEDS TO QUARANTINE:

If exposure was a positive-COVID household member:

- Unvaccinated students/staff members may return after 5 days with no symptoms from the time the COVID-19 positive household member is cleared of having active COVID-19.
- If the exposed student/staff member already has a POSITIVE COVID diagnosis, that individual can return to school following the COVID-19 Diagnosis protocols.
- If the household member is medically cleared on day 5 of quarantine, the student can return to school with a Negative COVID-19 test result if symptom-free (wearing a mask for an additional 5 days).
- The exposed individual should continue to self-monitor for symptoms for the full 10 days following exposure.
- In the case symptoms develop during these 5 days, the person should get tested to rule out COVID in order to come back to school as soon as possible.
- The CDC recommends that those that are unwilling to wear a face covering should remain quarantined for the full 10 days of their own incubation period.
- If a student/staff member develops symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19 while in the quarantine, follow the COVID-19 Diagnosis protocols.

RE-ADMITTANCE CRITERIA

A student or staff member who had signs of suspected or laboratory confirmed COVID-19 can return to school when:

Updated Isolation Procedure as of March 4, 2022

According to the CDC, the change in isolation and quarantining periods is motivated by science demonstrating that the majority of SARS-CoV-2 transmission occurs early in the course of illness, generally in the 1-2 days prior to onset of symptoms and the 2-3 days after. If your child is symptomatic and receives a negative COVID test, the district will allow your child to return to school after being fever free for 24 hours and resolving symptoms. We will ask for your child to wear a face covering for five additional days when returning. Please note that **DHHS defines resolving symptoms as:**

1. At least 24 hours have passed with no fever and without the use of fever-reducing medicine; **AND**
2. Other symptoms are improving (loss of taste and smell might last for weeks or months after recovery but should not delay ending isolation).

Given what is currently known about COVID-19 and the Omicron variant, CDC is shortening the recommended time for isolation from 10 days for people with COVID-19 to 5 days if the individual is asymptomatic or has resolving symptoms, followed by 5 days of wearing a mask when around others.

Everyone who tests positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status or booster status, must:

- Isolate at home for at least five days; AND
- Be fever-free for 24 hours without medication; AND
- Are asymptomatic or have resolving symptoms after 5 days; AND
- Must not have anyone in the household isolating for COVID-19; AND

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- 5 days have passed since symptoms first started, 5 days since a positive test was received, your child has had a negative COVID-19 test (confirmed by a health care professional) OR a note from a health care provider confirming your child does not have a confirmed COVID-19 case.
- Your child must wear a well-fitting mask at school for an additional 5 days after isolation is complete, regardless of the school's current universal masking status.
- The CDC states that if students or staff are unable or unwilling to wear a mask when around others after day 5, they should continue to isolate for a full 10 days.

ISOLATIONS OF ILL STUDENTS AND STAFF

Students and staff with any of the symptoms of COVID-19 should be isolated. The school's current illness management policy should be followed to minimize transmission to others and optimize learning opportunities. The exclusion and readmission criteria outlined above should be followed.

Students who meet the exclusion criteria must be immediately isolated in a separate area, and their parent(s)/guardian(s) immediately called to pick up the student, with supervision until the ill student can leave.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

Close off areas by the individuals with COVID-19 and wait as long as practical and ideally 24 hours before beginning cleaning and disinfection to minimize potential for exposure to respiratory droplets. Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area.

Cleaning staff should clean and disinfect all areas (e.g., offices, bathrooms, classrooms, and common areas) used by the ill persons, focusing especially on frequently touched surfaces (e.g., doorknobs, drinking faucets, keyboards, touchscreens, and hallway handrails).

Staff/personnel should ensure that desk surfaces are cleared of items at the end of the day to facilitate janitorial staff's ability to rapidly disinfect surfaces without having to remove student and teachers' possessions.

If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.

- For disinfection, most EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective. A list of products that are EPA approved for use against the virus that causes COVID-19 is available at:

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19>

Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method, and contact time, etc.).

- Additionally, diluted household bleach solutions can be used if appropriate to disinfect surfaces. Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleaner. Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted. Prepare a bleach solution by mixing ½ cup of bleach per one gallon of water.

- Avoid splash-less color-fast, or bleach with fragrance as those include additives that make them unsafe for food contact surfaces as some district and schools may be using classrooms for nutrition services.

HANDWASHING AND SHARED ITEMS

- Monitor and ensure frequent and thorough hand washing, especially after handling nose and throat discharges.
- Schools should minimize shared items between students and staff.

CLOSURE OF ROOMS AND SCHOOL BUILDINGS

During outbreaks, closure of rooms and school buildings may be necessary to reduce the risk of spread of illness. Rooms are closed based on the need to sanitize and eliminate close contact exposures. If several rooms are affected in a building, the entire building may be closed. If there is substantial risk of spread of contagion or severe illness, the school building may be closed. The requirement to close and the extent and length of closure of a room or school depends on the specific illness and measures that must be taken to control the spread of illness. These measures are to ensure the safety of students, staff, their families, and the community. The following applies:

- Closure of Rooms – For any vomiting or fecal incidents in a classroom or other areas, the classroom or area shall be closed and sanitized prior to being reoccupied. During outbreaks, rooms may be closed by DHHS or the school district superintendent if cases are linked to room occupancy or if the layout of the room does not allow for adherence to CDC guidelines to control and prevent the spread of infection. In all cases, rooms must be sanitized following protocol for the specific illness.
- Closure of School Buildings – For any infectious disease, a school building may be closed as necessary to control the spread of illness throughout the school site. School buildings shall be closed under the following criteria:
 - Directions from the Governor of the State of Nevada, Nevada DHHS, or determinations by the school district superintendent.
 - Indeterminate or high risk of school-wide exposures to highly infectious diseases or diseases with high risk of serious illness such as COVID-19, Pertussis, or Norovirus. Schools may also be closed for uncontrolled outbreaks exceeding 30 days.

For outbreaks such as COVID-19, levels of school building closure may depend on the ability to occupy the school site at a limited occupancy and ensure the required social distancing is adhered to if applicable.

Sanitizing protocols will be implemented in sections of the school that are open during an outbreak. As a supplemental measure to sanitizing affected rooms and areas, increase of airflow is recommended and can be accomplished by opening doors and windows and changing filters in the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system. If a room is closed, change all air filters in that room's HVAC system and if a building is closed, all air filters in the buildings HVAC should also be changed.

The length of closure will be determined by potential exposures as indicated by case reports and contact tracing as well as updated information from the CDC on guidelines to reduce spread. There are currently four levels of closure may apply depending upon the current vaccination status of those affected and exposure level:

- Level 1 Closure for twenty-four (24) hours is for individual cases in isolated areas, not to exceed the expected number of illnesses with COVID-19 symptoms and up to one (1) positive case per classroom or work area. Level 1 Closure will likely be extended if close contacts cannot be identified and interviewed.

- Level 2 Closure for seventy-two (72) hours is for two (2) or more positive cases in the same room or work area and individual cases in isolated areas exceeding the number of expected illnesses with COVID-19 symptoms.

- Level 3 Closure is the longest intermittent range for closure and is implemented if contact tracing and case reports do not indicate that potential spread has been controlled within seventy-two (72) hours, a very likely extension of Level 2 in the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

- Level 4 Closure for an extended period will occur if an outbreak remains out of control in the school or general population. Level 4 Closure will end once an outbreak is declared over and restrictions are lifted by the State and MCCERT. Outbreaks are generally declared over by MCCERT when reports of illness are below baseline and potential for close contact spread has been resolved. Levels of closure for outbreaks other than COVID-19 may vary.

During school closure, it may be necessary for some facilities and administrative staff to occupy buildings. Such occupancy is allowable following guidelines to reduce exposure and spread of illness. Guidelines have been established by MCSD for staff returning to the school site during COVID-19. For other types of illness, guidelines would follow the risk of environmental spread. The risk of environmental exposures, to include airborne and surfaces varies among types of bacteria, viruses and other causative agents. The closure of schools will likely be followed by the suspension of athletic events and school gatherings both on and off campus to control for person-to-person spread.

DHHS-DPBH will monitor school outbreaks daily and compile the line list data daily to determine if the spread of COVID-19 is slowing or has discontinued within the school. Outbreaks will be declared over when baseline of COVID-19 illness has been achieved for two incubation periods (28 days).

Closure of Outbreaks and Summary:

When a school is closed due to outbreak, DHHS/DPBH will notify MCSD. The DHHS/DPBH will keep data of the outbreak, which includes an Epidemiology Curve (or Epi Curve). For larger outbreaks, an outbreak summary may be provided. It is important to review response to large or significant outbreaks to ensure the outbreak was handled as effectively and efficiently as possible and to plan for future responses to outbreaks. After an outbreak has concluded, reports from DHHS/DPBH and/or MCSD may be necessary, in some circumstances, to provide information to evaluate and prepare for future events.

In summary, the Outbreak Response Plan has essential components for reporting illnesses, controlling the spread of illness, and communication in MCSD schools during outbreaks. It is inclusive of tools used by

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DHHS/DPBH and MCSD and has been written through a collaborative effort with both entities and local clinicians. It is imperative to keep information herein updated as guidelines change. Therefore, various sections will be revised, and practices augmented to reflect the best information available at any point in time as illnesses might occur.

MINERAL COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT TRAINING AND TRIAGE

Reports of Illness

A. Training School Staff on Incoming Illness Reports Training of staff is an essential process with the understanding that district-wide outbreak response protocols may be in place during pandemics like COVID-19 or during other nationwide, statewide or local outbreaks that may or may not be linked to an individual school. For the individual school site, absences are typically reported by a Parent, Guardian, Staff Member or Student either by phone or electronically. Student or Staff Member may be absent for a variety of reasons. In order to control spread of illness it is important that a report of absence include whether the absence is due to illness and the specific symptoms. While the individual taking the report is not expected to diagnose any specific condition, it is expected that the symptoms are logged and it is most efficient if basic exclusion criteria can be conveyed to the person reporting at the initial point of contact. Additionally, there is no general expectation the person receiving the initial report of illness is a clinician and therefore training is a vital component for detecting a potential outbreak. Training essentially requires a plan for communication, scripts and triage of illness reports. It is within the guidelines of the Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) for symptom information to be requested by school staff and the only way that early detection of an outbreak can happen. For guidance, reference School Script during an Outbreak and COVID-19 Triage Note Pads and Cheat Sheets

B. Triage of Illness Reports One of the most important aspects of training that is worth highlighting is the triage of illness reports. The objective is to be able to categorize reports into types of illness consistent with reported symptoms. The first step to triage an illness report is a basic understanding of the predominate symptoms. It is usually the first clue that there may be an outbreak. Symptoms of many illnesses tend to overlap, and some illnesses are not entirely defined only by predominant symptoms. Viruses in particular may result in various maladies as noted with illnesses, such as COVID-19.

C. Isolating and Sending Home Ill Students and Staff: It is important to isolate any individual who is reported to have symptoms of illness if that individual is to remain on site for any period of time. This can be accomplished by moving the sick individual to a location that will be unoccupied during isolation, preferably in an office or room near where the individual will be exiting the school grounds. Ensure that the symptoms are logged on the illness reports for the day and that all pertinent information is filled in. Follow appropriate precautions to reduce the spread of illness to staff and students who may be in the proximity and interacting with the sick individual. Sanitize the high touch areas and any table or chair within the space occupied by the sick individual following their departure and prior to entry of the space of other students or staff. It is recommended to stagger occupancy of isolation areas by sick individuals when possible

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D. Reporting Illnesses to the DHHS/DPBH When an Outbreak is suspected: it is imperative that a report is made to the DHHS/DPBH Epidemiology Program. Absentee reporting and illness database programs supplement, but do not substitute, reporting via phone and following up with emails. The WCHD will gather data and other information from MCSD during the initial contacts. Illness tracking will commence with information from MCSD and Contact Tracing to determine the progression of the outbreak and necessary sampling procedures. To expedite investigations and mitigation measures, DHHS/DPBH needs the case reports daily during an outbreak. The information will be used by DHHS/DPBH Epidemiology and Mineral County COVID Emergency Response Team (MCCERT) Staff to conduct interviews and arrange for sample collections and deliveries to the NSPHL.

Community Members

Topic: Positive Case of COVID-19 in MINERAL COUNTY SCHOOL District

Date _____

Dear MCSD Parents, Guardians, and Staff and members:

Today, we received notification that a MCSD [student or employee] has tested positive for COVID-19. While we must protect the privacy of the person involved, we believe it is best to communicate transparently with you so you can make well-informed decisions for your family.

There is nothing more important to MCSD than the safety and health of our students, our staff and their families. We are working directly with county health officials to address this situation. They have recommended we share the following with you:

MCSD will continue to follow all COVID-related safety procedures including:

COVID-19 is transmitted through person-to-person contact and through the exchange of respiratory droplets. As more cases are being confirmed across the state, including in our community, we must be vigilant. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and shortness of breath. If you or any member of your family exhibit these symptoms, please contact your medical provider for advice immediately. Symptoms usually appear 2-14 days after exposure.

The CDC recommends the following best practices to help prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid close contact with those who are sick.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects.
- Stay at home when you are sick.
- Practice social distancing, leaving at least six feet between you and other people.
- Wear a cloth mask in public when you cannot social distance.

Our greatest priority is the safety of our students, staff and community members. It is important to remember that children are greatly influenced by the reactions of adults when facing difficult circumstances. I encourage everyone to remain calm and to be empathic and respectful to those affected. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you and your family, especially as we face this challenging situation together. Thank you for your support of MCSD.

Sincerely,

ANDRE PONDER,

MCSD Superintendent

MINERAL COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Letter for Parents, Staff & Community Members
Topic: Possible Exposure to COVID-19

Date _____

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff members:

As our country fights the spread of COVID-19, we believe one of our greatest responsibilities is to communicate transparently and often with you, our school community. It is our hope that accurate and up-to-date correspondence will help you make well-informed decisions for your family. Nothing is more important to MCSD than the safety and health of our students, our employees and their families. When we work together, we can provide the best care for all involved.

Recently _____ (date/time), we learned the following information: _____

[Insert details of the possible exposure. State facts and avoid words that cause unnecessary alarm. Be reassuring but honest. Also, do not violate student or employee privacy laws. If possible, as a courtesy, allow the family involved to read the letter before it is distributed.]

Here is an example for school administrators of what might be included above: *A [School] family recently received notification that five cases of COVID-19 may be associated with a cruise they took last month. This information was received several days after the [School] family had returned from their vacation to their regular routines, including school and work. The family has exhibited no symptoms of the illness; however, they are self-quarantining at this time as an added precaution and safeguard.*

MCSD will continue to clean and disinfect surfaces inside all district schools. Additionally, we will _____

[include additional actions taken by the district here, such as suspending summer activities.]

As more cases are being confirmed across the state, it is important to remain vigilant. The CDC recommends the following best practices to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid close contact with those who are sick.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects.
- Practice social distancing, leaving at least six feet between you and other people.
- When you are unable to practice social distancing in a public setting, wear a cloth mask.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and shortness of breath. If you or any member of your family exhibit these symptoms, you are encouraged to contact your medical provider for advice immediately. Symptoms usually appear 2-14 days after exposure.

Our greatest priority is the safety of our students, staff and community members. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you and your family, especially as we face this challenging situation together. Thank you for your support of MCSD.

Sincerely,
Andre' Ponder, Superintendent

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COVID-19 Self-Screening Daily Tool

Have you or anyone in your household had any of these symptoms in the last 24 hours?

- New/worsening respiratory symptoms* (cough and/or shortness of breath)
 - Vomiting and/or diarrhea ☹
- Fever (temperature of >100.4°F at rest)
 - Loss of smell or taste*
- Two or more of the following symptoms:

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Sore Throat | Chills |
| Abdominal Pain | Headache |
| Nasal Congestion | Fatigue |
| Muscle Pain | Body Aches |

* New symptoms are different than symptoms of ongoing health issues such as asthma, allergies, reflux, or COPD.

If you answer YES to any of the above:

- DO NOT go to school or work
- Contact your school and/or supervisor
- Call your healthcare provider

If you answer NO to all of these:

- Go to work or school
- Continue to monitor your health (and those in the household)

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**If you or anyone in your household:**

- Is **WAITING** for COVID-19 test results
- Is **DIAGNOSED** w/ COVID-19 by testing positive
- Is **DIAGNOSED** w/ COVID-19 by a healthcare provider but is **NOT TESTED**
- Has **SYMPTOMS** (above) has **NOT SEEN** a healthcare provider, has **NOT BEEN TESTED**, and is monitoring symptoms at home

You or someone in your household has or may have COVID-19:

- DO NOT go to school or work
- Communicate with your school and or supervisor
- COVID-19 patient must **ISOLATE** at home until recovered as defined:
  - At least 10 days has passed since the first symptom AND
  - 24 hours have passed since fever, vomiting, AND diarrhea stopped (without medication) AND other symptoms have improved
  - EVERYONE IN THE HOUSEHOLD, who has not had COVID-19, must **ISOLATE** at home until:
    - The patient has recovered (see above) AND 14 days have passed since the last recovery

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Have you been in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) **with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 while the person was contagious** (48 hours before symptoms began through recovery)?

You have been exposed to COVID-19:

- Do NOT go to school or work

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- **Communicate** with your school and or supervisor
- You must **QUARANTINE** at home for 14 days
- If, at any point you develop symptoms, **ISOLATE AND CALL YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER**

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## School Staff Obtaining Incoming Reports of Absence

When a report of absence is received it is important for staff documenting the absence to inquire if the absence is related to illness. If the absence is related to illness, it is essential for staff to inquire about specific symptoms. This is a vital step in early identification of COVID-19 to ensure that sick students are isolated appropriately. It is recommended to follow a script so that symptom information is collected in a systematic fashion throughout the schools. While the individual taking the report is not expected to diagnose any specific condition, it is expected that the symptoms are logged, and basic exclusion criteria conveyed to the person reporting at the initial point of contact.

The key to successful ascertainment is staff training. Once symptoms information is gathered, the reports also need to be reviewed and tabulated by symptoms. If it is determined there is an increase in any predominant symptoms, a report needs to be made to Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH). The following is an example of a script:

### School Script for Symptoms Ascertainment

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade/Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Date and Time Symptoms Started: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Specific Symptoms:

- |                                                  |     |    |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| •Do Symptoms include fever?                      | Yes | No |
| •Do symptoms include shortness of breath?        | Yes | No |
| •Do symptoms include cough?                      | Yes | No |
| •Do symptoms include fatigue?                    | Yes | No |
| •Do symptoms include chills?                     | Yes | No |
| •Do symptoms include vomiting?                   | Yes | No |
| •Do symptoms include diarrhea?                   | Yes | No |
| •Do symptoms include headache?                   | Yes | No |
| •Do symptoms include loss of taste and/or smell? | Yes | No |
| •Do symptoms include sore throat?                | Yes | No |

# COVID-19 SCHOOL SCRIPT DURING AN OUTBREAK

Questions to ask when a parent/guardian calls to report medical absence

Student

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Reported: \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time Symptoms

Started: \_\_\_\_\_

Report Taken By: \_\_\_\_\_ Given To: \_\_\_\_\_

Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_

## *Do symptoms include the following?*

**Feeling Feverish or has Fever (<100.4°/38°C):** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Unk

**Chills and/or muscle aches:** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Unk

**Any Difficulty Breathing, like shortness of breath or wheezing:** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Unk

**Headache:** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Unk

**Cough (New onset or worsening of chronic cough):** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Unk

**Chest Pain:** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Unk

**Vomiting:** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Unk

**Sore Throat:** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Unk

**Diarrhea (≥3 loose stools within 24 hr):** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Unk

**Abdominal Pain:** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Unk

**New olfactory (Smell) and Taste Disorder(s):** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Unk

**Other Symptoms:**

**Student has been in close contact w/ a person who has tested positive for COVID-19:** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If student has symptoms, read: Due to the symptoms reported, your child will be placed in the distance learning program and excluded from attending school in person until:

- At least 10 calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared
- 24 hours have passed since fever, diarrhea, or vomiting stopped with no medicine
- Other symptoms have improved.

If your child tests negative for COVID-19, call the school nurse to discuss your child's return to school. If student is out due to close contact, read: Since your student has been in close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 or been diagnosed with COVID-19, your student is to remain home on Distance Learning for 14 calendar days. Someone will contact you to gather more information soon. If at any time your student becomes ill, please call the school office.

End all calls with: We will change your student over to distance learning today and the distance learning teacher will reach out to you or your child to explain how to access learning. The teacher will also have a method for your child to check in daily. During this time, if your child checks in daily, your child will not be marked absent.