



**Derry Township School District**

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Dr. Stacy Winslow, Superintendent  
Dr. Jason Reifsnyder, Assistant to the Superintendent  
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January 7, 2022

Dear Derry Township Families,

Throughout the week, we have received updated guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC). As a result, we wanted to take an opportunity to share the updates with you as they impact the procedures for isolation and quarantining that were communicated with you earlier in the week.

The CDC is still recommending a shortened isolation period for students who are positive and symptomatic. Just as a reminder, students are now required to isolate for a minimum of 5 days for a confirmed case of COVID-19, instead of the 10 days that was previously required. However, the updated recommendations **no longer** require students who have completed their primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine over 6 months ago and are not boosted; OR completed their primary series of J&J over 2 months ago and are not boosted to quarantine.

However, students still need wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days from the date of their last close contact with someone with COVID-19 (the date of last close contact is considered day 0) and get tested at least 5 days after they last had close contact with someone with COVID-19.

**DTSD Rapid Antigen Testing**

As a reminder the District has partnered with [Concentric by Ginkgo](#) to make an optional COVID-19 diagnostic testing program available to interested families and staff at no cost. This optional and free program is designed to provide an extra layer of protection to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. The program has two components:

1. Symptomatic testing for students/staff who show symptoms of COVID-19 at home or school, and;

2. Asymptomatic testing for students/staff who may have been exposed to COVID-19 but are not showing symptoms.

Symptomatic students may only participate in the testing program with a signed consent form from a parent/guardian and the presence of a parent/guardian during the test itself. Students who are symptomatic and test negative will need to participate in a follow-up test a minimum of 2 days later to confirm the results.

Asymptomatic students/staff who may have been exposed to COVID-19 but are not showing symptoms will be able to remain at school/work provided their test result is negative. Students who are asymptomatic may only participate in the testing program with a signed consent form from a parent/guardian.

Consents forms are only sent to the parents/guardians of students or staff members that are showing symptoms of COVID-19 at home or school or may have been exposed to COVID-19 at home or school but are not showing symptoms.

A parent/guardian **must** be present before a student who is in isolation, quarantine or is symptomatic while at school can be tested for COVID-19. However, a parent/guardian **does not** need to be present before a non-quarantined student can be tested for COVID-19.

As before we have also updated our [symptom flow chart on our website](#) based on the new CDC guidelines and the changes can also be found below. We encourage our families to continue to utilize our COVID-19 hotline to report symptomatic or positive cases. Information for contacting the hotline can be [found on our website](#).

We will continue to keep our school community informed as changes are made or we receive new information from the CDC or Department of Health. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue to work through keeping our students and staff safe and in school.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stacy Winslow and the Administrative Team