



## Jennings County School Corporation

### OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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*Teresa A. Brown, Superintendent*

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August 31, 2020

Dear Jennings County Families,

Thank you for all you are doing to continue working with our staff as we implement guidelines to address safety during the Pandemic. As we stated to you when we adopted our Panther's Prepare and Care Guide in June, we are continuing to monitor the guidance from the Indiana State Health Department and CDC and adjust procedures accordingly. Last week, we received some new guidance that will change the way we respond to students and staff who have COVID symptoms or test positive. Additionally, the actual symptoms for COVID have been modified to represent what health care has identified as more likely indicators. The attached **blue documents** are the overview of how we will respond to COVID as directed by the Indiana State Health Department. **These blue documents replace the yellow documents you received on the first day of school** and should be kept in a safe place to help you know what to expect if your child is sick.

#### Here is a summary of key changes:

- When identifying a close contact of someone testing positive for COVID, it is a person who was within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more, even with a mask. The guidance has changed to include an accumulation of 15 minutes in a day. It is no longer one 15-minute period. The 15 minutes of contact accumulates.
- Anyone who lives with or stayed overnight for at least one night in a household with the infected person while he or she was infectious is at highest risk (48 hours before symptom onset is still the window).
- Household members are close contacts and should quarantine for 14 days of last exposure to the case.
- Person of interest and close contacts (same household) should quarantine while waiting for test results. This is a big difference. It is no longer fine to continue attending school/work until you receive a positive test result. Rather, a household may not return until they have a negative test or an alternate diagnosis or 10 days have elapsed.
- Anyone with a **negative test** who is not a close contact may return to school if fever free for 24 hours, without fever-reducing meds, and symptoms have resolved. **NO doctor note is required.** This is also a significant change.
- **Symptoms** narrowed and are revised for COVID. These are used for screening:
  - Temp. 100 (JC policy),
  - Sore throat
  - New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough baseline)

**Stronger Together**

- Vomiting or abdominal pain
- Diarrhea
- New severe headache especially with a fever
- Loss of taste or smell
- Anyone with symptoms who is not tested must isolate, and anyone in the household (including siblings) are considered close contacts and must quarantine for 10 days.
- If the symptomatic person without a positive test is diagnosed with another condition that explains the symptoms, or tests negative, then no quarantine for close contacts is necessary.
- If not tested, a provider's note with alternate diagnosis will be needed to return to school or 10 days of exclusion is necessary.
- A symptomatic person and anyone living in a household should quarantine while waiting for test results.

In addition to COVID updates, I wanted to make you aware of a policy in transportation that is needed due to Department of Education guidelines this year. Due to the need for assigned seats and close contact tracing, no students may ride a different bus to and from school or ride with another student home unless it is preapproved with the principal and due to babysitting reasons. We appreciate your help with this.

We will continue to provide you with support as we navigate these changes from the Indiana State Health Department. Communication between home and school is critical. We will ensure that we keep you up to date with new information. Thank you for all you do!

Teresa A. Brown  
Superintendent  
Jennings County School Corporation



# COVID-19 Screening for Parents

Every morning before you send your child to school please check for signs of illness:



FEVER 100.4\* OR CHILLS

\*or school board policy  
if threshold is lower



SORE THROAT



COUGH\* OR SHORTNESS  
OF BREATH

\*especially new onset, uncontrolled  
cough



DIARRHEA, NAUSEA  
OR VOMITING



HEADACHE\*

\*particularly new onset of severe  
headache, especially with fever



NEW LOSS OF TASTE  
OR SMELL



MUSCLE OR BODY  
ACHES OR FATIGUE

- 1 Does your child have any sign of illness above?
  - 2 Were you in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with anyone confirmed with COVID-19?
  - 3 If the answer is **YES** to any of the questions, **DO NOT** send your student to school. Instead, begin isolation of your child and contact your healthcare provider. Have you been tested for COVID-19? Only a positive test or provider diagnosis can confirm if someone has a current infection.
  - 4 Please keep your student home until they meet the criteria on the chart on back of the page.
- ➔ If you have trouble breathing, chest pain, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake or bluish lips or face **CALL 911!**



## Individual is **NOT** a known close contact to a COVID-19 case:



Individual	Symptomatic	No Symptoms
<b>Not tested for COVID-19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The individual must remain home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement of symptoms.</li> <li>Siblings and household members should follow the close contact chart below for exclusion.</li> <li>If diagnosed with another condition that explains the symptoms, such as ear or bladder infection, individual does <b>not</b> need to isolate and close contacts do not need to quarantine, doctor's note required to return to school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May attend school.</li> </ul>
<b>Tested and negative for COVID-19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The individual must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of symptoms, unless otherwise advised by a healthcare provider.</li> <li>If diagnosed with another condition, the individual must complete the exclusion period for the diagnosed disease.</li> <li>Please provide proof of negative COVID-19 test (not antibody).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May attend school.</li> </ul>
<b>Tested and positive for COVID-19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The individual must <b>isolate</b> at home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement in symptoms.</li> <li>Repeat testing is NOT recommended for making decisions about when people can return to work or school.</li> <li>Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should follow the close contact chart below.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must <b>isolate</b> at home for 10 days after the day the sample was collected.</li> <li>Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should follow the close contact chart below.</li> </ul>

## Individual **IS** a known close contact to a COVID-19 case:

Individual	Symptomatic	No Symptoms
<b>Not tested for COVID-19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The individual must <b>quarantine</b> for 14 days after the last contact with the COVID-19-positive person.</li> <li>If the exposure is to a household member and the case cannot properly isolate away from others at home, the last date of contact may be the last day of <b>isolation</b> for the positive person.</li> <li>The individual must also remain home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement of symptoms.</li> <li>The criteria in both of the above bullets must be met before returning to school.</li> <li>Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should also follow this chart to determine <b>quarantine</b> length.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must <b>quarantine</b> for 14 days from the date of last exposure <b>before</b> returning to school or day care.</li> <li>If the exposure is to a household member and the case cannot properly <b>isolate</b> away from others at home, the last date of contact may be the last day of <b>isolation</b> for the positive person.</li> <li>If an individual who is a close contact becomes symptomatic, refer to the symptomatic scenarios.</li> </ul>
<b>Tested and negative for COVID-19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The individual must <b>quarantine</b> for 14 days after contact with the COVID-19-positive person, even if the student has an alternate diagnosis for symptoms.</li> <li>If still symptomatic after the 14 days, individual must wait to return to school until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of symptoms.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must <b>quarantine</b> for 14 days from the date of last exposure <b>before</b> returning to school or day care.</li> <li>If the exposure is to a household member and the case cannot properly <b>isolate</b> away from others at home, the last date of contact may be the last day of <b>isolation</b> for the positive person.</li> <li>If an individual who is a close contact becomes symptomatic, refer to the symptomatic scenarios.</li> </ul>
<b>Tested and positive for COVID-19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The individual must <b>isolate</b> at home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement in symptoms.</li> <li>Repeat testing is NOT recommended for making decisions about when people can return to work or school.</li> <li>Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should also follow this chart to determine <b>quarantine</b> length.</li> <li>If the close contact tests positive, <b>isolation</b> starts on the day of symptom onset and isolation may end prior to the last day of <b>quarantine</b> or after the 14 days of quarantine.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must <b>isolate</b> at home for 10 days after the day the sample was collected.</li> <li>Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should follow this chart.</li> </ul>