



FREQUENTLY ASKED HEALTH & SAFETY QUESTIONS:

The district has received a multitude of questions regarding health and safety issues pending the reopening of schools. The nurses have grouped questions related to the same topic together and, in conjunction with the school's medical director, Dr. Nicole Cerklewich, will address some of these concerns below.

Please be aware that the district is ultimately guided by the New York State Department of Health and we must comply with their guidance. Also, keep in mind that these recommendations are subject to change. This district will strive to update the answers promptly if new guidance is received.

1. Questions regarding if an individual exhibits symptoms of COVID-19:

The district is requiring that all individuals, including students, faculty and staff, complete a self screening questionnaire each morning before boarding the bus or entering the school building. Parents will be required to complete this screening for their children each day. This district will send home a contract prior to the first day of school that must be signed and returned to school, verifying that parents agree to comply with this request.

Currently, the symptoms of COVID-19 listed by the CDC include:

- Fever > 100° F or 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

This list does not include all possible symptoms. People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.

If a student or faculty/staff member answers “yes” to any of the screening questions, they **may not** board the bus or enter the school building and are required to notify the school and their health care provider.

If one student or family member has symptoms **but has not tested positive**, siblings may attend school as long as they, themselves, are symptom free, unless notified to quarantine by the Clinton County Health Department.

2. Questions Regarding Returning to School After Illness:

If an individual develops symptoms the following is required to return to school:

MUST MEET ALL CRITERIA IN ONE SECTION TO RETURN:

- A. If an individual is determined **NOT TO HAVE COVID-19** by a health care provider, the individual may return to school if:
- There has not been a fever of 100° F or greater, without the use of fever reducing medications for at least 24 hours; **AND**
 - They have been diagnosed with another condition (i.e. strep throat); **AND**
 - They have a documented negative COVID-19 test and a health care provider written note clearing them to return to school.
- B. If an individual **HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19** by a health care provider based on a test **OR** their symptoms **OR** does not get a COVID test but **HAS HAD** symptoms, they should not be at school and should stay home until:
- It has been at least TEN days since the individual first has symptoms; **AND**
 - It has been at least THREE days since the individual has had a fever without using fever reducing medication; **AND**
 - It has been at least THREE days since the individual's symptoms have improved, including cough and shortness of breath; **AND**
 - They have provided a health care provider's written note stating that the individual has been cleared to return to school.

3. Questions with Regard to Contact Tracing:

The district's responsibilities with regard to contact tracing are as follows:

Once the district has been notified by the Clinton County Health Department (CCHD) of an individual with a positive COVID-19 result, the district will identify the individuals' close contacts during the infectious period.

Close contacts are those individuals that meet the following criteria: within 6 feet of the COVID positive individual for ≥ 15 minutes. These contacts may include but are not limited to classroom contacts, transportation contacts, recess and or extracurricular activities contacts.

The district is required to provide the following information to the CCHD:

- Student name
- Parent/Guardian name and phone number
- Home address

The Clinton County Health Department will determine which students should be quarantined and excluded from school.