

September 28, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we recently ended the third week of the school year, I want to express my appreciation for your support and cooperation in helping our district return to in-person learning. I know that these are unusual times and extra effort is required by everyone to ensure the safest possible learning environment for our students, faculty, and staff.

Today, I want to review the NYS Department of Health's guidance regarding actions that must be taken if our students or staff exhibit potential COVID-19 symptoms as listed below.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fever 100° or greater   | <input type="checkbox"/> Muscle or body aches                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chills                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Headache                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cough                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Congested or runny nose | <input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of taste or smell  | <input type="checkbox"/> Nausea or vomiting                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fatigue                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhea                                 |

**Schools must follow New York State Department of Health and Clinton County Health Department guidelines for returning to school or work. This return to learning protocol must include, at minimum, documentation from a health care provider evaluation, negative COVID-19 testing and symptom resolution. In addition, if the individual tested COVID-19 positive, release from isolation.**

**IF A COVID TEST IS POSITIVE, or health care provider diagnoses a student or employee with COVID-19, the student or employee may return to school when:**

- ✓ at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared;
- ✓ **AND** at least three days have passed since fever  $\geq 100^{\circ}$  F (without the use of fever-reducing medications);
- ✓ **AND** respiratory symptoms have improved;
- ✓ **AND the individual has a "Release from Isolation" notice from the Clinton County Health Department and a note from a health care provider that they may return.**


**IF A COVID TEST IS NEGATIVE**, a student or employee may return to school if they have:

- ✓ Proof of negative COVID-19 test;
- ✓ **AND** documentation of an evaluation by a health care provider and have a written note clearing the individual to return to school;
- ✓ **AND** there has been no fever of  $\geq 100^{\circ}$  F, without the use of fever-reducing medication, for at least 24 hours, and the individual has felt well for 24 hours (symptom resolution).

This guidance is designed to ensure that the safest possible learning environment exists in our schools. I thank you, in advance, for your support of this guidance and assistance in helping our district implement these regulations. If you have any questions, please reach out to our school nurses.

I ask that you follow our Department of Health guidelines to protect our students and staff, their families, and the entire community. Together, we can make a difference!

Thank you and best regards,

  
Robb Garrand  
Superintendent of Schools

