

## **OCUSD Return to School Protocols for Students**

### **Face Coverings**

Consistent with guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health, students **must** wear face masks at all times while in school buildings (except when eating or if necessary to play an instrument), on school buses, and outside when social distancing of six feet or more cannot be maintained. Students are expected to wear a face mask to school each day. Students who arrive at school without a face mask will be provided a disposable face mask. The first mask will be at no cost; subsequent masks provided will result in a \$1.00 charge.

The only exemptions to the face covering requirement are for students who are younger than two years of age, who have trouble breathing, who have medical conditions that make it difficult for them to wear a face mask, or who are otherwise unable to remove the face mask without assistance. Students who are exempt from wearing a face mask may also be provided with appropriate accommodations to ensure the safety of that student and the rest of the school community (e.g., wearing a face shield or remote learning). To request an exemption to the face mask requirement and an appropriate accommodation in lieu of a face mask for your student, please contact Nurse Sharon Hoover, [shoover@ocusd.net](mailto:shoover@ocusd.net). A note from the student's physician explaining the need for the exemption will be required for a student requesting an exemption from the face mask requirement. District personnel will contact the parent(s)/guardian(s) of all students requesting exemptions to discuss appropriate accommodations.

Students who refuse to wear face coverings may be subject to disciplinary consequences consistent with the Student Code of Conduct and Board Policy 7:190, *Student Behavior*.

### **Symptom Screenings**

The District requires that each family conduct an at home temperature and symptom screening prior to their student(s) entering the school building or the school bus.

#### **At Home Screening**

Prior to entering any District building on a daily basis, all students must complete and submit the District's Health Screen Form from the link provided to families via text, e-mail, and on the OCUSD Website under CORONA VIRUS UPDATES (<https://www.ocusd.net/corona>). This form shall self-certify that the student does not have a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit/38 degrees Celsius, is not exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms, and has not been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. The known COVID-19 symptoms are fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. Families must complete the certification daily via the online form.

Students who are symptomatic (i.e., fever of greater than 100.0 degree Fahrenheit, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea) may **not** return to school until the student has been fever-free for 72 hours without fever-reducing medication and 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared. Following the period of isolating at home (quarantine), the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) must contact the Nurse Sharon Hoover, [shoover@ocusd.net](mailto:shoover@ocusd.net) before the student returns to school.

If a student presents with symptoms at school, the student will be immediately separated from the rest of the school population and the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) will be contacted to pick the student up from school. In the event emergency services are necessary, the District will call 911.

The District may share health screening information among staff about students and visitors as necessary to protect the health and safety of students in the District. As required by law, the District will obtain consent to release any personally identifying information about a student to anyone outside of the District. If a student tests positive for COVID-19 and the District determines that there is an articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student at the District, the District may disclose, without prior written consent, identifying information about the student to the Illinois Department of Health and the county health department. Additionally, the District will need to engage in contact tracing and the District will notify other parents and staff that a student has tested positive for COVID-19, but will not reveal the identity of that student without consent of the parent or unless it is absolutely necessary to protect the health or safety of students or other individuals. All disclosures of personal identifying information will be recorded pursuant to State and Federal law.

### **Confirmed COVID-19 Cases**

Students who test positive for COVID-19 may **not** return to school, until the student has been fever-free for 72 hours without fever-reducing medication and 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, or the student has two negative COVID-19 tests in a row, with testing completed at least 24 hours apart. Following the period of isolating at home (quarantine) or two negative COVID-19 tests, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) must contact the Nurse Sharon Hoover, [shoover@ocusd.net](mailto:shoover@ocusd.net) before the student returns to school. During this quarantine, remote learning for students will be available consistent with the District's Remote Learning Plan.

### **Close Contact**

Students who were in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or are suspected of having the COVID-19 infection must isolate at home (quarantine) and monitor for symptoms for 14 days. Close contact means the student was within 6 feet, for more than 15 minutes, of the individual who tested positive for COVID-19 or are suspected of having COVID-19. Students who were in proximity of the COVID positive or COVID suspected individual but did not have close contact can return to school immediately after school disinfection and sanitation but must monitor their symptoms.

Students who were in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or is suspected of having COVID-19 infection may be reported to the local health department for symptom monitoring and contact tracing. The District will comply with local and state health department guidelines and all student confidentiality laws related to informing the school community. During this quarantine, remote learning for students will be available consistent with the District's Remote Learning Plan.

### **Visitor Protocols**

Wherever possible, schools and the district office will attempt to limit any nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations. Visitors (if allowed) will be restricted to the main office area, when possible. Discipline, IEP and 504 meetings, and other meetings between staff and visitors/families will be held remotely whenever possible. However, if parents/guardians are unable to engage in a required meeting remotely, socially distanced in-person

meetings may be held. Pre-arranged appointments may be required in most instances, visitors are discouraged from attempting to visit the school unannounced.

Schools and the district office will conduct temperature and symptom screenings or require self-certification and verification for all visitors entering school buildings. Individuals who have a temperature greater than 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or currently known symptoms of COVID-19 (i.e., fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea, may not enter buildings). Individuals who exhibit symptoms will be referred to a medical provider for evaluation, treatment, and information about when they can return to school. Records of visitors, including the individual's reason for the visit, contact information, and all locations visited, will be kept in case contact tracing is needed.

Adopted: