Berrien Springs

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February 4, 2022

Dear Parents & Guardians,

At the Thursday, February 3, 2022 Board of Education meeting, Board members supported changes to the 2021-22 Return to Learn plan. The 2021-22 Return to Learn plan is available on the district's website https://www.homeoftheshamrocks.org/return-to-learn/. Effective Monday, February 5, 2022 the following changes will be implemented in the notification of student and staff close contacts and quarantine process.

Close Contact and Quarantine Notification

1. School District Staff will inform parents/guardians and staff of any school related COVID-19 exposures and refer them to the Berrien County Health Department for further instructions.
2. If there are no symptoms of illness, the student and/or staff member may choose to continue at school and/or work until notified by the Berrien County Health Department of their quarantine status for any identified school exposure.
3. If students/staff members develop symptoms of illness, they are to remain at home for five (5) days or until the individual is symptom free for 24 hours.

Face mask use continues to be optional in our school district. However, face masks are required on all district transportation under the current order of the federal government (January 29, 2021 CDC Order).

Student or Staff Member Illness

Parents/Guardians are not to send children to school who are ill per Board Policy 5702 Student Illness.

Students and/or staff members exhibiting the following symptoms which are common indicators of COVID-19 shall remain home or be excluded from school for 5 days unless a negative COVID-19 test result or a doctor's note stating the student may return to school is provided to school administrators.

- Fever (temp over 100.4) or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose (congestion)
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue (tiredness)
- Vomiting and diarrhea
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell

The most effective learning environment for the majority of students is in-person learning. It is our hope the above changes will improve student and staff attendance at school/work. The district continues to appreciate the understanding and cooperation of our families in helping to maintain a safe and healthy learning environment for all students and staff members. Thank you for your continued support of Berrien Springs Public Schools.

Sincerely,

David Eichberg

David Eichberg, Superintendent