



TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
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January 7, 2022

Greetings,

Happy New Year to our Trinity Area School District community! We hope you enjoyed the holidays and were excited to see the staff and students return to school this week. This notification is to inform parents, staff and students that, based on the latest CDC recommended guidelines and **beginning Friday, January 7, 2022**, the Trinity Area School District will shorten the period of isolation for those who have tested positive for COVID-19. Per the PA Department of Health's most recent update, recommendations for the quarantining of close contacts will also change. According to the CDC, these changes are motivated by science demonstrating that the majority of SARS-CoV-2 transmission occurs early in the course of illness, generally during 1-2 days prior to the onset of symptoms, and then 2-3 days after onset.

Positive Staff Member/Student – Isolation
Positive Test Result: Isolate for 5 days after a positive rapid, PCR, or home test. If no symptoms are present, or if symptoms are resolved after 5 days, including being 24 hours fever free, the positive staff member/student can end isolation and return to school activities. <u>Positive staff members and students should continue their isolation as long as the symptoms and/or a fever persist.</u> After ending isolation, the individual should wear a mask while in school for an additional 5 days.
Close Contact
Notification: The school nurse, building principal, or the Washington County Department of Health will notify parents/guardians of close contacts, or staff members considered close contacts.
Option 1: If a student is identified as a close contact, the parent/guardian may choose to quarantine the student at home for 5 days, and then return the student to school if no symptoms are present. Staff members identified as close contacts may also choose to quarantine at home for 5 days, and then return to work thereafter if no symptoms are present. It is recommended that a close contact tests on Day 5 before returning to school and wears a mask for 5 days upon return.
Option 2: If a student is identified as a close contact, the parent/guardian may choose to send the student to school if no symptoms are present. Staff members identified as close contacts may also choose to attend work if no symptoms are present. It is recommended that a close contact tests on Day 5 and wears a mask for the next 10 days after being identified.

Masks are still required on all Trinity Area School District forms of transportation, such as a bus or a van.

We will continue to focus on the health and well-being of all staff members and students. Our priority is to provide an environment which promotes health, safety and improved academic achievement. Working together, we can make 2022 an exceptional year!

Sincerely,

Dr. Donald L. Snoke
 Assistant Superintendent