

## Recommendations from the Director of Nursing

For both policies, I want all nursing offices to follow the most current recommendations from KDHE, but also will follow the recommendations the BOE feel most appropriate.

### 1. COVID Testing Policy.

After reviewing the KDHE recommendations/guidelines and speaking with other school nurses on what they are currently following, my recommendation is to CONTINUE TO FOLLOW what is written per the 2022-2023 policy as it closely follows the recommendations of KDHE. If any changes/recommendations are put in place by KDHE, the superintendent/board will be notified as soon any changes are recommended.

Current USD 434 District plan for safe return policy (as per the 2022-2023 School Year)

- Positive for COVID-19
  - Follow current recommendations and guidelines for the 10-day isolation period
  - Notify the school so that the absence may be appropriately documented.
  - Isolate at home for a full 5 days and be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications (minimum 5 day isolation) followed by 5 days of wearing a well-fitting mask.
    - During Isolation: stay home, avoid contact with other members of your household and pets, and do not share items. Wear a well-fitting mask if you must be around others.
  - Notify any possible close contact of potential exposure.
- Close Contacts
  - Defined as anyone being within 6 feet of a person positive for COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more in a 24-hour period. When a person tests positive, they are responsible for notifying their close contact as soon as possible about any potential exposures. Close contact should then follow the current recommendations of:
    - Follow the Test to Know Guidelines (noted below)
    - Observe for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 for 10 days after exposure.
    - Remain home if any symptoms develop and test as soon as possible.
- Diagnostic and screening testing
  - Students, staff, and community members can access COVID-10 diagnostic or screening tests through a variety of community partners. School nurses and health support staff will continue to monitor for symptoms, trends, clusters, and request that students and staff seek medical services as appropriate. The district will have rapid testing at the nursing stations in each building if students/families wish to be tested at school.
- Test to know
  - This plan provides testing to anyone exposed to someone with COVID-19 or anyone that would like to know their status
    - Non-Household Contacts

- Students/teachers/staff who chose to wear a high-quality, well-fitting mask daily for at least 10 days after exposure should be tested on day 5 following their exposure.
- Students/teachers/staff who chose NOT to wear a mask should be tested upon notification of their exposure then every other day through day 7
- Household Contacts
  - Students/teachers/staff who are close household contact who chose to wear a high-quality, well-fitting mask daily should mask while household exposure is ongoing and for 10 days following their last exposure, testing on day 5 after last exposure or immediately if symptoms develop.
  - Students/teachers/staff who are close household contacts who chose NOT to mask should be tested upon notification of their exposure and every other day after their last exposure through day 10.

## 2. Exclusion from school for temperature.

- Current currently on the USD 434 website
  - Temperature 100.4 or higher (regardless of other symptoms) will be sent home.
  - Students/staff can return when fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- What was posted in the High School office when I started January 2023, and what I was under the impression was being followed by SAC/OAC/CAC.
  - Oral Temperature of 99.6 degrees or above with headache, sore throat, nausea, coughing, sneezing or other symptoms
    - Sent home
    - Can return when fever free for 24 hours without medications
  - Oral Temperature of 100.4 or above (without other symptoms)
    - Sent home
    - Can return when fever free for 24 hours without medication.
- This year there has been some confusion with this policy between buildings/parents
  - My recommendation is to formally adopt BOTH of the following:
    - Temperature 100.4 or higher (regardless of other symptoms)
      - Student/staff will be sent home
      - Students/staff can return when fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.
    - Oral Temperature of 99.6 degrees or above with headache, sore throat, nausea, coughing, sneezing or other symptom
      - Student/Staff will be sent home
      - Students/staff can return when fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.