

## **Protocol: Communication to family of student after positive COVID-19 case**

**Rationale:** The health and safety of all students and staff of Central Columbia is first priority.

**Purpose:** It is the intention of this protocol to communicate effectively and expediently with Central Columbia students regarding close contact exposure to positive COVID-19 cases.

### **Definitions:**

1. Case: A person who has tested positive for COVID-19
2. Close Contact: A person who has been within 6 ft. of a case for > 15 minutes
3. Infectious period: 2 days prior to the start of symptoms until isolated.
  - a. Example:
4. Isolation period (for a case): A minimum of 10 days after testing positive AND fever free 72 hours.
5. Quarantine period: 14 days after last known contact with a case.

### **Protocol:**

Student tests positive for COVID-19:

1. Communication to school occurs:
  - a. Student/Parent/Guardian communicates with school regarding positive case.
  - b. Positive case student is now isolated at home for 10 days AND must be fever free 72 hours. (this will be monitored by the treating physician).
  - c. Note required for case student to return to school from the treating physician.
2. Department of Health is contacted immediately. **PHONE NUMBER**
3. Administration pulls schedule of the student.
  - a. Administration requests assistance from teachers of the identified student.
4. Teachers identify all “close contacts” of the identified case student and provide this list to administration.
  - a. “Close contact” includes:
    - i. any person that was within 6 feet of the identified student for 15 minutes or greater during the infectious period.
    - ii. any student who has shared equipment, tools, drinking vessels, personal items (makeup, brush etc.) and lab materials.
    - iii. students who have ridden on the school bus within 6 feet longer than 15 minutes.
    - iv. students who have ridden in a car to or from school with the student.
    - v. **RECESS?** Procedures for recess will dictate this action.
  - b. “Close contact” MAY include:

- i. teammates who have paired with the student.
  - ii. Students who have eaten lunch adjacent to the student during infectious period.
  - iii. Those who have socialized during free times with the student without a mask on for less than 15 minutes.
  - iv. Students in the same PE class who have had physical contact with the case.
  - v. **RECESS?** Procedures for recess will dictate this action.
5. Administration compiles the list of “close contacts” and prepares to call all identified families of the contact students that same day.
  6. Close contact students have the last known close contact date identified by teacher.
  7. Close contact students are quarantined 14 days from the last known contact with the case.
  8. Direction is given to the family to communicate with their family physician with any specific medical questions.

**Script:**

- Hello, this is **Mr./Mrs. ADMIN**. Is this the parents of STUDENT?
- I would like to speak with you regarding your child. We have identified them as coming in close contact with a Central student who has recently tested positive for COVID-19.
- I understand this may be a stressful situation for you and your family.
- We require at this time your child quarantines for 14 days from **DAY X**, which was the last known date of contact with the other student. We recommend if your child displays any symptoms of COVID that you contact your family physician.
- Do you have any questions for me at this time?

NOTE: A **contact of a contact (parent or sibling)** is an individual who had or continues to have close contact with a **contact**. This person should take every day preventative actions, like washing hands, covering coughs and sneezes, and cleaning surfaces frequently, however quarantine is not necessary. This person should also be alert for symptoms.

NOTE: Due to confidentiality concerns, I cannot share specific student information with you.

**Partial list of symptoms:**

fever (100.4 or higher), cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, sore throat, runny nose/ congestion, chills, new lack of smell/taste, muscle pain, nausea/vomiting, headache, diarrhea



It is important to note that a significant and/or widespread outbreak may require moving to a more remote-based instructional model more quickly. DOH will provide proactive consultative assistance to school entities should such an outbreak occur.

<b>Level of Community Transmission in the County</b>	<b>Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a 14-day period:</b> 1 student or 1 staff	<b>Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a 14-day period:</b> 2-4 students/staff in same school building <b>OR</b> <5% of total number of students/staff in a school building are cases <b>OR</b> Multiple school buildings with individual cases who are not household contacts	<b>Number of Cases of COVID-19 Within a 14-day period:</b> 5+ students/staff in same school building <b>OR</b> ≥5% of total number of students/ staff in a school building are cases <b>OR</b> Multiple school buildings with 2-4 cases who are not household contacts
<b>Low</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School does not need to close</li> <li>Clean area(s) where case spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close school(s) for 3-5 days*</li> <li>Clean area(s) where cases spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close school(s) for 14 days*</li> <li>Clean entire school(s)</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>
<b>Moderate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School does not need to close</li> <li>Clean area(s) where case spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close school(s) for 5-7 days*</li> <li>Clean area(s) where cases spent time</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close school(s) for 14 days*</li> <li>Clean entire school(s)</li> <li>Public health staff will direct close contacts to quarantine</li> </ul>
<b>Substantial</b>	<a href="#">DOH and PDE recommend a Full Remote Learning Model for all schools in counties with substantial level of community transmission</a>	<a href="#">DOH and PDE recommend a Full Remote Learning Model for all schools in counties with substantial level of community transmission</a>	<a href="#">DOH and PDE recommend a Full Remote Learning Model for all schools in counties with substantial level of community transmission</a>

