



Handling COVID-19 Cases

Brighton Area Schools

Identifying Positive COVID-19 Cases

The District may become aware of a positive COVID-19 case from a parent, student, community member or the Livingston County Health Department. If the District receives information from a parent, student, or community member, it will contact the Livingston County Health Department for confirmation. Positive cases that have potential school exposure are listed on our website.

Isolating Positive COVID-19 Cases

Positive cases of COVID-19 are ordered to isolate by the Livingston County Health Department. If the case impacts the school district, the LCHD will contact the District directly to begin contact-tracing. In addition to contacting us directly, LCHD sends the District a daily list of those within the school community that are directed to isolate. Positive cases may return to school 10 days from the onset of symptoms as long as they have been fever-free for at least 24 hours and symptoms have abated.

Identifying Close Contacts of a Positive COVID-19 Case

Once a case is confirmed, the Livingston County Health Department will provide the District with the window of time in which the student or staff member would have been contagious while in the school environment. The District will provide to LCHD the names of students and staff members who were in close contact with the positive case during this window. A close contact is a student who has been within six feet of the positive case for 15 minutes or more, cumulatively, with or without a mask. Close contacts are identified using seating charts, video footage, and discussions with the positive case, as well as with teachers and other staff. The Livingston County Health Department also interviews the positive case to collect names of individuals who would be considered close contacts.

Notifying Close Contacts of a Positive COVID-19 Case

LCHD will send letters to all close contacts, notifying them of their quarantine requirements. The District will also send emails to the students and staff considered to be close contacts. Although the Livingston County Health Department will define the quarantine requirements, the District may also notify close contacts that they will be required to quarantine for 14 days from their last close contact with the positive case and will have the date on which the student or staff member may return to school. Close contacts are identified in our database to ensure that the District is able to enforce the health department's quarantine directive. Because symptoms may take 14 days to appear, close contacts may not return to school earlier than 14 days even with a negative COVID-19 test.

Identifying and Notifying Those Potentially Exposed Once a positive case is determined, and close contacts are notified, the District will email all those who have been potentially exposed. These emails are sent to classmates and staff that may have had contact with the positive case, but were not considered to be a close contact. Those that have been potentially exposed do not need to

quarantine, but should monitor for symptoms and contact their health care provider, letting them know that they were potentially exposed.

How Close Contacts become Probable Cases

If a student or staff member is identified as a close contact and begins to show symptoms typical of COVID-19, he or she becomes a probable case. Probable cases are treated as positive cases even without a confirming COVID-19 test. Probable cases that have potential school exposure are listed on the District's website.

Handling Probable COVID-19 Cases

If a student or staff member is identified as a probable case, the District engages in all of the same contact tracing that it does for positive cases. Close contacts are notified by the health department and school district and directed to quarantine for 14 days and potentially exposed cases are notified.

Notifying the School Community

Once the school sends out the emails to close contacts, and then those potentially exposed, the school will send out an all school community email, notifying them that there has been a positive and/or probable case in the school.

Positive or Probable Cases on a School Bus

If a positive or probable case uses school transportation, the close contact tracing will include those who may have ridden on the same bus with the student. This may expand the list of potentially exposed to multiple classrooms or schools. If a positive or probable case involves transportation, the school community will be notified of its multiple community impact.

Handling Suspected Cases of COVID-19

Suspected COVID-19 cases are those in which students or staff members experience symptoms typical of COVID-19, that are new or different from any chronic illness or known cause. These may include fever, cough, respiratory stress, nausea, loss of taste or smell, runny nose, or sore throat. If a student or staff member is experiencing these symptoms, they may not attend school and should be tested for COVID-19. One that is experiencing these symptoms may not return to school until they have a negative COVID-19 test, have a doctor's note with a diagnosis other than COVID-19 or a date when they can return to school, or 10 days from the onset of these symptoms.

Suspected Cases Identified at School

If a student or staff member starts to experience these symptoms at school, he or she will be sent home and may not return until he or she has a negative COVID-19 case, a doctor's note with a diagnosis other than COVID-19 or a date when they can return to school, or 10 days from the onset of these symptoms.

Listing Positive and Probable Cases on the Website

In accordance with recent MDHHS requirements, all positive and probable school-associated cases. A school-associated case is a case of probable or confirmed COVID-19 amongst students, teachers, staff members, coaches, volunteers, or any other person who was present on school property or at a school function under circumstances that may result in the transmission or contraction of COVID-19 during their infectious period. These cases will be reported within two days of school notice and will remain as a new case, with the notice date, for 14 days. After 14 days, the case will be transferred to the cumulative case tally for the school or program impacted.