

School District of Pittsville



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September 30, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians:

On Wednesday, September 29, 2021, the Board of Education approved a pilot program. Students and staff who have been identified as close contacts of a non-household positive will have an additional option beside off-site quarantine. They may remain in school as long as they test negative and have no COVID-19 symptoms. Currently, our county guidance requires out of school quarantine. The Wood County Health Department has approved our pilot **“Test to Stay”** program to be done on our site. No children will be tested without parental permission.

“Test to Stay” option for non-household asymptomatic close contacts:

- A Rapid COVID-19 test is administered each morning before first period for 7 school days post exposure.
 - If the Rapid test is negative and the person remains symptom free, then the student stays in school and wears a face mask until 14 days after exposure. If vaccinated, wear a face mask until 6 days after exposure.
 - If the Rapid test is positive, then a PCR test will be done at school and sent to the lab for processing. A positive test will require out of school quarantine until the results are returned from the lab. Protocols for negative and positive PCR test will be followed. Some asymptomatic students may test positive.

County quarantine for asymptomatic close contacts who do not choose the “Test to Stay” option:

- Unvaccinated: quarantined out of school. Recommend a PCR COVID-19 test on days 6-7 for early return on day 8 after exposure. Return on day 11 with no test and no symptoms. Both early return options require masking and a daily symptom tracker record examined in each school office at the start of the day through day 14. On day 15 if the student has no symptoms, and if masks are optional, students will not be required to wear a mask.
- Vaccinated: stay in school, mask. May test on days 3-5, if the result is negative and if masks are optional, the student may remove their mask while in school on day 6.

The Test to Stay option is designed to keep symptom free (asymptomatic) negative close contacts in school and learning. It will decrease the number of missed student days due to quarantine. Overall, our families have been doing an outstanding job of keeping their children home when they are sick and verifying what the sickness is before sending them to school. The implementation of “Test to Stay” may require changes to improve efficiency and safety which will be communicated on an ongoing basis. Please have a plan in place in the event of out of school quarantine.

- Face coverings are required on all school transportation per federal mandate.
- All visitors to the buildings are required to wear face coverings.

The District dashboard, with up to date positive and quarantine information, may be found on our website:
pittsville.k12.wi.us. *R. Figueroa*