DON’T FEEL WELL? STAY HOME

If you have the symptoms below, let your family and teachers know.

COUGH  FEVER  SORE THROAT
KEY MITIGATIONS FOR SCHOOLS *(including extracurricular activities)*

These practices are important to not only guard against COVID-19, but also the spread of other infections such as the flu and the common cold.

*The most effective mitigation strategy is the vaccination for those eligible to receive it.*

When student or staff tests positive for COVID-19

» Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19, should stay home for at least 5 days and isolate from others.

» Day 0 is the first day of symptoms or positive test if asymptomatic.

» Students and staff may return to school if they:
  › Stayed home and isolated for at least 5 full days
  › Are fever free for 24 hours (without the use of fever reducing medications)
  › Have symptoms that are improving

» Individuals who were severely ill or immunocompromised should stay home and isolate for 10 days.

» Students and staff should take precautions when returning to school after completing their 5-day isolation. This includes wearing a well fitted mask for 10 full days (days 6-10) inside the school. If a mask is unable to be worn, they should continue to isolate and remain at home for 10 days or have a negative test on day 5 or later.

» Students should not be allowed to participate in unmasked extracurricular activities while in isolation and potentially infectious. Schools may consider allowing students to participate in unmasked extracurricular activities during days 6-10 if they obtain a negative antigen test on day 5 or later.

Case Reporting and Considerations for School Closure

» Schools are to report in aggregate the number of positive staff and students for the prior week (Thursday to Thursday) to an online portal: [http://www.wvdhhr.org/EpiInfoWebSurvey/Home/3fe5c197-32b3-4057-99d5-30e7426cc0d0c](http://www.wvdhhr.org/EpiInfoWebSurvey/Home/3fe5c197-32b3-4057-99d5-30e7426cc0d0c). This will allow for a more robust tracking of COVID-19 cases and will measure the true burden COVID-19 has on our school system by measuring the percent positivity.

» Schools may consider closing for a five-day period to slow transmission, in consultation with the local health department, based on one of the thresholds:
  › School is unable to maintain a safe school environment due to the number of staff out with COVID.
  › School COVID-19 percent positivity exceeds 20% on the weekly report.

» Five-day closures do require all extra-curricular events to be cancelled/postponed. However, schools needing to close for a day or two due to staffing, may conduct extra-curricular events based on their county-level policies.

» Universal contact tracing is not required; however, parents should be notified if there is a positive case in the school or classroom.