

COVID19 UPDATES AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE

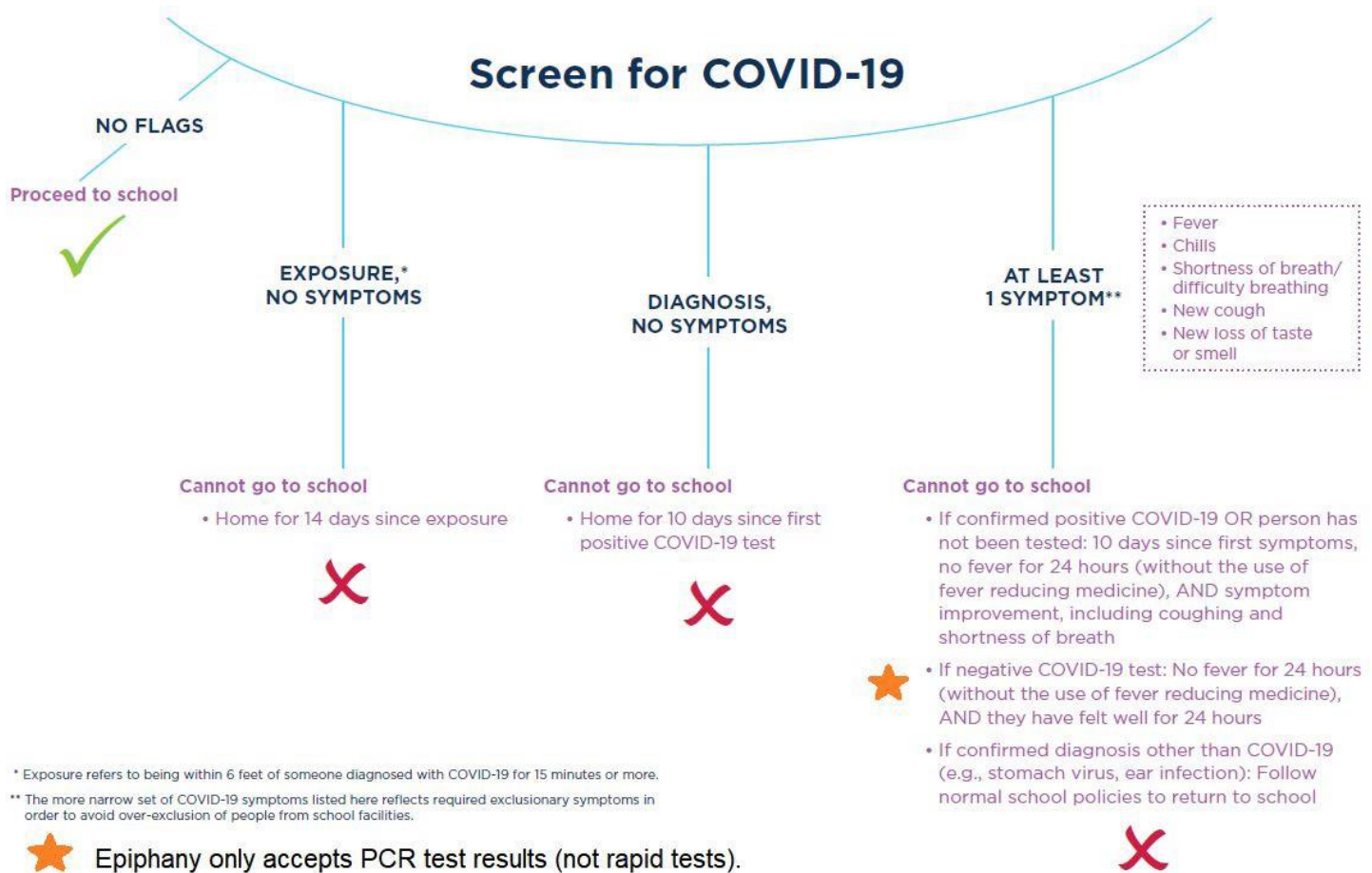
The Safety and Wellness team received further guidance from the Health Department on how to best modify some of our current practices in response to the increase in positive cases and hospitalizations in our county.

WHOLE SCHOOL UPDATES

The Health Department is currently using the following standard criteria to determine **exposure to COVID19**:

- Close Contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID19 - PCR positive test results = within 6 feet for **10 minutes** or longer
- Note: Close contact rules apply (6 feet), even if both people are wearing masks - the emphasis is on physical distance and exposure time.
- This shortens the amount of time students can safely engage in non-socially distant activities (indoors or outdoors)

If you (or a student) have been exposed to a positive case or are feeling sick with at least one of the listed symptoms, please follow the chart below to determine when to return to school.



Based on Health Department recommendations, the following “Considerations for School Closure Chart” was created.

Suspected/ Confirmed Case of COVID-19 within 5 day period	Grades K-5 / Nests	Grades 6-8 / Nests	Grades 9-12 / Division
Single case*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overnight clean/disinfect student area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overnight clean/disinfect student area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overnight clean/disinfect student area
2+ cases*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nest closed for 48 hours for thorough classroom cleaning** Increase frequency of health screenings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nest closed for 48 hours for thorough classroom cleaning** Restrict nest intermingling during lunch and Brain Breaks Increase frequency of health screenings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Division closed for 48 hours for thorough classroom cleaning** Restrict student intermingling during lunch and Brain Breaks Increase frequency of health screenings
5+ cases*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade level shifts to online learning for 14 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade level to online learning for 14 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Division shifts to online learning for 14 days
<p>* ALL suspected/confirmed positive cases (on-campus) will be reported to the Health Department. Epiphany will follow all Health Department directions regarding contact tracing, cleaning protocols, and possible room or building closure.</p> <p>** Closure timeframes may be adjusted/extended based on Health Department recommendations.</p>			

LOWER SCHOOL UPDATES

Please note the change to the 10 minutes/exposure time limit applies to LS students as well. Small group or partner activities can not exceed 10 minutes. However, multiple small group activities throughout the day are allowed as long as student groups change (i.e. Sally can only be in a small group with Fred for 10 minutes once a day).

Outdoor Nest Partners

Each LS nest will be allowed to partner with their homeroom for outside community time. We understand that teachers and/or weather may limit these outdoor activities on some days, but the goal is to allow students/teachers to spend time with different friends.

Playspace rules:

- If going outside, students should sanitize their hands before and after.
- Any balls/shared items that are used outside should be sanitized after use.

MIDDLE SCHOOL UPDATES

One specific area of concern was multiple Middle School nests intermingling during outdoor activities and lunch. **Until the current uptick in local COVID19 cases slows, the Health Department recommends that only two MS nests mix together (outside/socially distant).** Because we want to be able to track potential exposures and limit the number of students required to quarantine (in the event of a positive case), we have put together a rotating schedule for MS nests to share outdoor spaces. Limiting students' contact to two nests allows us to target cleaning/quarantine closures by nest in the event of a positive case on campus (equals fewer kids staying home).

Each MS nest will have a partner nest each week. If teachers want to take their classes outside for an activity or to gather for lunch, they may only do so with their partner nest. We understand that teachers and/or weather may limit these outdoor activities on some days, but the goal is to allow students/teachers to spend time with different friends each week.

Green space rules:

- If going outside, students should sanitize their hands before and after.
- Any balls that are used during brain breaks or anytime outside, should be sanitized after.
- **Basketball** - students may play games like "Horse" or "Knock-out" (shooting type games), keeping in mind social distancing. "Man to Man" or "Women to Women" basketball is discouraged at this time.
- **Volleyball & Soccer** - students may play with a volleyball or soccer ball if they are socially distant and have sanitized their hands. Students may not play games that are not socially distant.
- **4-square or other outdoor games** - please observe social distancing rules.
- **Walking** - students may walk around the school or the nature trail as long as they are socially distant (6 ft.). If they are closer than 6 ft., they must wear a mask.

UPPER SCHOOL UPDATES

The Upper School schedule and multi-grade classes mean that all 9th-12th grade students are essentially in one big nest. A single positive case on campus will probably require closing the Upper School for 48 hours of cleaning. More than two cases on campus will likely require that the entire Upper School shift to remote learning for two weeks.

The Health Department's primary area of concern for Upper School is the students not observing proper social distancing during the lunch break. We understand that it is challenging to supervise social distancing (they act like magnets), and for this reason we will now require all students to have their own chair to eat outside. We hope that requiring chairs will make monitoring/maintaining social distance easier.

Upper School students will begin a weekly grade level picnic rotation (with their chairs). Students can gather as a grade (socially distant) and eat lunch in the Upper School picnic space. Students will continue to eat with their 4th period classes on their non-picnic days and when weather prohibits outdoor dining in the Upper School lunch area.

Monday:	9th grade picnic
Tuesday:	10th grade picnic
Wednesday:	11th grade picnic
Thursday:	Senior picnic