



St. Francois County Health Center
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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

September 20, 2021

The St. Francois County Health Center has had discussions with local school districts to discuss strategies to provide safe and supportive learning environments for students, teachers and staff. When mitigation efforts are layered, transmission of COVID-19 can be decreased for in-school learning environments. St. Francois County Health Center recommends universal masking and vaccination as the best mitigation measures at this time, with additional strategies such as; physical distancing, improved ventilation, handwashing, respiratory etiquette, staying home when you are sick and getting tested, isolation and quarantine.

Effective immediately modified quarantine will allow asymptomatic close contacts of an exposure to remain in school during quarantine period if able to comply with the following:

1. Notification to parents to inform of potential risk and modified quarantine guidelines.
2. Well-fitting masks are worn correctly and consistently for 14 days after the last date of exposure when physical distancing (3 ft) is not possible.
3. Well-fitting masks **MUST** be worn correctly and consistently on transportation.
4. Exposed case will wear a properly fitting mask correctly and consistently during the 14-day period.
5. Physical distancing will be maintained when possible.
6. Student health should be evaluated/monitored daily for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19.
7. MSHSAA guidelines are followed when it comes to participation in competitive play

Students who are fully vaccinated, have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 90 days, or were confirmed to have an “in-school” exposure where both students were correctly and consistently wearing well-fitting masks will not need to abstain from extracurricular activities, IF they remain asymptomatic.

Modified quarantine will not apply to extracurricular activities

Students will be allowed to OBSERVE extracurricular activities while physical distancing and wearing a mask correctly and consistently.

Outside of school setting quarantine requirements still apply

This modification is intended as an additional mitigation strategy and is not a requirement.

The St. Francois County Health Center will continue to monitor COVID-19 case rates and community positivity rates and may move to a stricter stance on close contacts in schools if the data within a school or community overall warrants such a decision.