

Admin Content

Dr. Sloan will give an overview of the following:

To be identified as a close contact, an individual must be within six (6) feet of an infected individual at the time of the exposure for a cumulative time of 15 minutes or more on a specific day. Listed below are some scenarios to help you understand the decision-making process for close-contact restrictions starting after Fall Break.

1. No restrictions for close-contact students at school. We will keep a close eye on those students who were around a positive case, but we are not restricting them without symptoms or a positive test simply by being identified as a close-contact. Parents also need to monitor for fever and other symptoms and follow our current policies in our student handbook. Contact tracing will still occur and parents will be notified via a phone call or an email if their child has been in close contact to a confirmed case of Covid. Parents can choose to quarantine their child due to the close contact if they wish to do so. Items 2-6 go into additional detail.
2. If an unvaccinated and unmasked individual was less than six (6) feet from the infected individual at the time of exposure for 15 minutes or more, factors such as seating arrangements, the activity at the time of exposure, and current transmission rates will be considered but, in most instances, he/she will only be quarantined for symptoms. Per our existing Student Handbook policy, students or staff with a fever must be fever free for 24 hours and are not to be in school. Symptoms that will result in quarantining from a close contact are defined as a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher and any one of the following symptoms: cough, headache, diarrhea, nausea. The 10-day quarantine begins on the day the individual last had contact with the Covid positive person.
3. If there is a confirmed case of Covid within a household student(s)/staff will be required to quarantine for 10 days.
4. If an identified close-contact has been vaccinated, he/she will only be quarantined for symptoms.
5. If an identified close-contact individual was wearing a mask at the time of the exposure, he/she will only be quarantined for symptoms.
6. We will contact trace our athletes, but we will not be contact tracing students in the stands. We encourage families to sit together and for guests to spread out as much as possible with the upcoming indoor sports.

We continue to appreciate the hard work of our building staff to implement our enhanced protocols. Administrators and teachers continue to be creative in their efforts to provide quality learning environments while maximizing social distancing to the extent possible. Even with enhanced safety measures, maintaining highly-engaged and highly-productive classrooms within each of our school buildings continues to be a top priority.

All plans are subject to change based on public health data, guidance, federal, state and/or county directives and the responsibility of the Southern Wells Community Schools Board of Trustees to govern the local public school program.