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Dear Whitefish Bay School Community,

Thank you to all of our families as we continue to navigate the latest COVID-19 challenges and commit to keeping students safe and in schools for the 2021-22 school year. As guidance continues to evolve related to COVID-19, the District also must adapt our practices to best serve students and staff.

Due to the consistent low transmission rate of COVID-19 in our schools (the rate at which those who are identified as close contacts test positive for COVID-19), the frequency in which unvaccinated students and staff are needing to enter quarantine, and the importance of a consistent learning environment for students, quarantine practices for unvaccinated students and staff will shift moving forward. New information regarding Close Contacts is included below.

Unvaccinated Students Deemed a Close Contact

1. If your student or a staff member has been a close contact and is unvaccinated, you will be notified both by phone and by email. Quarantine will be optional, but recommended, for unvaccinated close contacts who are asymptomatic.
2. The purpose of quarantine is to avoid potentially impacting the health of those around your student. If asymptomatic, your student or a staff member can return to school immediately, or any time within the previously recommended 5-day quarantine.
3. When your student or a staff member returns to school, they must wear a [well-fitting mask](#), and monitor for symptoms closely and begin isolation if they experience symptoms. In accordance with the CDC guidelines, it is best practice to be tested for COVID-19 at Day 5 after exposure; however, this is not required at this time. If your student or a staff member develops symptoms, notify your healthcare provider and stay home. Additionally, be sure to get them tested for COVID-19 and stay home until the test results are received. Your student or a staff member may return sooner if they receive a negative test.
4. If your child or a staff member is asymptomatic but chooses to get tested for COVID-19, they do not need to quarantine while awaiting test results.

Fully Vaccinated Students Deemed a Close Contact (No Change)

1. Students and staff members must have both original COVID-19 shots (or one shot of the J&J vaccine), and have waited two weeks after their last shot, in order to be considered fully vaccinated. [Booster shots](#) are also strongly encouraged for those who are eligible.
2. If your student or a staff member has been a close contact and is vaccinated, they may continue to report to school, monitor for symptoms closely, and continue to wear a mask. If they develop symptoms, notify your healthcare provider and stay home. Additionally, be sure to get them tested for COVID-19 and stay home until the test results are received. They may return sooner if they receive a negative test.

Household Contacts

If a member of your household has a positive COVID-19 test (household contact), but cannot isolate from the rest of your family for 5 days and wear a well-fitted mask for an additional 5 days, your child or a staff member is required to remain quarantined for 5 additional days beyond their household contact's quarantine or isolation prior to returning to school. They should only return to school after their quarantine period if they are asymptomatic. Fully vaccinated household contacts do not need to quarantine if asymptomatic.

Other guidance will remain the same at this point. Please carefully review emails from the District for updates and changes related to COVID-19.

For additional information related to COVID-19, please visit our [COVID-19 Dashboard](#). If you have specific questions related to your student, please reach out to your child's school or the District Nurse at 414-963-3989.