

SENTINEL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Jason Goostree, Superintendent ~ Theron Graybill, High School Principal ~ Paula Combs, Elementary Principal

December 2, 2020

Sentinel parents and students,

Today the CDC revised quarantine guidelines for COVID-19. A summary of those revised guidelines can be found below:

1. A person can end self-quarantine at seven days after exposure if they **test negative and have had no symptoms**. The test can be a PCR or rapid antigen test and should be taken within 48 hours of the end of the quarantine period. (Days 5, 6 or 7 of the quarantine) *A quarantine can be no less than 7 days.*
2. Without a test, a person should self-quarantine for **10 days and monitor symptoms for four more days**.

The guidance says when a shortened quarantine is in place, the following also should be in place through 14 days after exposure:

3. Daily symptom monitoring
4. Mitigation strategies, including correctly and consistently wearing a face covering and social distancing
 - **Sentinel Public Schools will require that these students/staff wear masks in classrooms, hallways and in school vehicles during days 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14.**

Sentinel Public Schools is able to offer rapid antigen tests to students that meet criteria #1 above. A permission slip from a parent or legal guardian will be required to administer this test and we are working on getting that from state officials. As soon as we have that available we will inform those students that it will currently affect. Testing will be done in an isolated area of the school that students and parents will be notified of when this situation pertains to them. Students will enter the isolated area to test and then exit the building and will be required to wait outside until the 15 minute period to get results is reached. **State health officials have advised that school districts may immediately begin following the new guidance and can apply it to students and/or employees who may currently be in quarantine and are outside the new quarantine window/protocols.** Today and tomorrow we will begin reaching out to students currently quarantined so that we can determine their possible new re-entry date to in-person learning.

Sincerely,

Mr. Goostree