



# RINGGOLD SCHOOL DISTRICT

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*Superintendent of Schools*

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Dear Parents & Guardians,

I want to take this time to thank everyone for their continued support during these first months of school. While we had hoped that the 21-22 school year would present a scenario that placed the pandemic in our rear-view mirror, unfortunately, that has not been the case. In fact, the recent Order from the Acting Secretary of Health, has implemented a masking restriction, for a duration of time that is set to be revisited at a later date.

In addition to the masking mandate, the District has continued implementation of mitigation efforts during the school day, including social distancing, encouraging handwashing, deep cleaning of learning spaces, etc. Despite these efforts, we continue to receive reports of positive cases. The District has been responsive to positive cases and in each instance where a student or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19, the District has advised parents/families of the current recommendations from the CDC which include quarantine for a period of ten days following the onset of symptoms and 24 hours after the resolution of fever and improvement of other symptoms (if symptoms were experienced). If the child was not experiencing symptoms, the CDC recommended return to school after 10 days following their positive test.

I write today to inform you that while we have previously *recommended* that the CDC guidelines be followed, ***the District will now be requiring*** that students follow the CDC guidelines listed above. In addition, as a result of this exposure, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has also made the following recommendations. ***Ringgold School District will now require that students/families follow the CDC recommendations as listed below:***

**Persons not fully vaccinated:**

1. If a person is not fully vaccinated, they will be required to quarantine for a period of 10 days.
2. After 10 days, if the person is symptom free and has not tested positive for COVID-19, he/she may end their quarantine.
3. If a person chooses, the quarantine can end after a period of 7 days if the person receives a negative COVID-19 test.
4. For this to occur, the COVID-19 test must be administered no less than 5 days after exposure. If you **voluntarily** provide us with documentation of a negative test result, your child's quarantine from school can end after 7 days.
5. If a person has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and has recovered, the CDC does not require quarantining. If you **voluntarily** provide us with documentation of a positive test within the last 90 days your child will not be required to quarantine from school.

**Persons fully vaccinated:**

1. For a fully vaccinated person, the CDC recommends that there is no need to quarantine. If you **voluntarily** provide us with documentation of vaccination, your child will not be required to quarantine from school.
2. The CDC does recommend that the person should receive a COVID-19 test 2 to 5 days after exposure.
3. The CDC also recommends that the person wear a mask indoors in public settings for a period of 14 days or until the person receives a negative test result.
4. Should the test come back positive, the CDC recommends a quarantine period of 10 days which Ringgold School District will require.

We encourage you to visit the Pennsylvania Department of Education [click here](#) for additional information for ways to keep your family and our school community safe. In addition, CDC's website also provides information about COVID-19, including an overview of quarantine as it relates to the K-12 school setting [click here](#).

While we know that this information will be received with varied responses, it is the mission of the Ringgold School District to provide a safe learning environment for staff, students, and community members. We thank you in advance for your continued support as we continue to move the District forward.

Sincerely,

*Randall Skrinjorich*

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*~ Preparing students today for the challenges of tomorrow ~*