

DOH-DOE Webinar

August 7, 2020



AGENDA

- **Dr. Ben Jones, DOE**
Welcome and Updates
- **Secretary Kim Malsam-Rysdon and Team, DOH**
School Scenarios

FAQs

Considerations for Special Locations (DOH and DOE)

Q&A from Chat Box

SCENARIO 1

I have a 3rd grade student who was in school on Monday. He stayed home Tuesday because of illness and saw a health care provider that same day. The health care provider ordered a COVID test. On Thursday at 10 a.m., the parent called the school to let us know the student tested positive for COVID. The student has not been in school since Monday at 3:30 p.m. The student has a sibling in 1st grade; she has been in school the whole week.

- The individual who is symptomatic and being tested for COVID should remain at home until notification of the test result.
 - If positive, individual will isolate for a minimum of 10 days since symptoms began and may be removed from isolation by DOH after at least 10 days have passed, the individual is fever free for 24 hours without use of fever reducing medications, and there is improvement in symptoms.
 - If negative, individual should remain home and follow school policy for return to school.
- Once Department of Health receives positive COVID test result, they will begin case investigation. DOH will reach out to superintendent or POC to gather relevant information.
- DOH will determine when student's symptoms began and go back two days prior to determine when they may have been considered infectious and to identify close contacts in coordination with school POC.
 - For example, student became symptomatic on Tuesday. He would have been considered infectious Sunday and Monday. DOH will gather close contacts from Sunday through the date of isolation. DOH also gathers any other contacts from the case or parent/guardian (household, social, workplace).
- Once close contacts are gathered, DOH will contact and notify close contacts.
- The sibling in 1st grade would be considered a household close contact and would quarantine for 14 days and monitor for symptoms. DOH will contact the close contact and provide quarantine recommendations.
 - Students in the 1st grade classroom would not be considered close contacts.
 - If the brother becomes symptomatic and tests positive, he will now start isolation. DOH would identify the infectious period with the student or parent/guardian (2 days prior to symptom onset) and determine if the student was infectious while in school. Process would repeat if school exposure.

SCENARIO 2

I have a high school student who became ill on Saturday. She saw her health care provider that morning, who ordered a COVID test. On Thursday, she got results that she tested positive. The DOH and the parent alerted the school. The student had not been in school since the previous Friday, when she had attended four different classes with different groups of students. She is also a volleyball player and rode the bus to an away game the previous Friday (2-hour bus trip one-way). The volleyball team is slated to play another game in the next few days.

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 - If negative, individual should stay home and follow school policy for return to school.
- Once the Department of Health receives a positive COVID test result, they will begin case investigation. DOH will reach out to superintendent or POC to gather relevant information.
- DOH will determine when the student's symptoms began and go back two days prior to determine when they may have been considered infectious and to identify close contacts in coordination with the school POC.
 - For example, the student became symptomatic on Saturday. She would have been considered infectious Thursday and Friday. DOH staff will gather close contacts from Thursday through the date of isolation. DOH also gathers any other contacts from the case or parent/guardian (household, social, workplace).
 - Since the student attended 4 different classes, DOH would work through identifying and narrowing down close contacts with the school POC.
 - Since she rode a bus for 2 hours one way, it could be possible that the entire team would be considered a close contact on the bus and would require quarantine for 14 days since date of last exposure. Many factors are considered in unique situations such as bus rides. The DOH would also determine if there are any close contacts on the competing team. If the entire volleyball team is quarantined, they should not participate in the upcoming game. They would quarantine for 14 days since date of last exposure and monitor for symptoms.

SCENARIO 3

I have a custodian, Linda, whose husband has been identified by the DOH as a close contact of someone who tested positive. Linda's husband has been recommended to self-quarantine for 14 days.

- Linda's husband is considered a close contact.
- Linda is not considered a close contact. She is considered a contact of a contact and does not need to quarantine.
- If her husband becomes symptomatic and tests positive for COVID, Linda would be considered a close contact and would now self-quarantine for 14 days since date of last exposure and monitor for symptoms.
 - If she is continually exposed to her husband while he is infectious, her quarantine period is extended based on exposures.
 - If the school deems Linda's position as a critical infrastructure position and Linda remained asymptomatic, school could allow her to continue working, mask, monitor for symptoms, and implement protective measures.

SCENARIO 4

My school nurse cared for a student who became ill while at school with COVID symptoms. She was wearing a surgical mask and gloves when taking the student's temperature and caring for the student until parents could arrive to pick up the child. The student is tested and tests positive.

- The DOH would determine if the nurse is a close contact.
 - Within 6 feet for 15 minutes or longer.
 - Determine any other factors that would impact close contact.
 - A surgical mask does not exclude the nurse from becoming a close contact.
- If the nurse meets the criteria of close contact, she would quarantine for 14 days since the date of last exposure.
- If employer deems the school nurse a critical infrastructure employee and she remained asymptomatic, school could allow the nurse to return to work, mask, monitor for symptoms, and implement protective measures.

SCENARIO 5

I have a teacher, Matt, who was identified as a close contact of someone who tested positive. Matt is showing no COVID symptoms. As a close contact, the DOH has recommended that Matt self-quarantine for 14 days.

- DOH has contacted the close contact, Matt, and provided quarantine recommendations and education.
- Matt would be considered a close contact and would self-quarantine for 14 days since date of last exposure.
- If Matt becomes symptomatic and tests positive, he will begin isolation. The DOH will contact Matt to provide isolation recommendations, identify potential exposures, and gather close contacts.
- If employer deems the teacher as a critical infrastructure employee and he remained asymptomatic, school could allow the teacher to return to work, mask, monitor for symptoms, and implement protective measures.

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. If a school is notified mid-day of a positive case within a building, would the school need to close immediately in order to prepare for cleaning or wait until the end of day?**

DOH would not recommend dismissal mid-day. Dismissal at end-of-day is appropriate.

- 2. If a parent, spouse or other household member that lives with a student or staff member tests positive, is this considered a confirmed case in the school?**

This would **not** be considered a confirmed case in the school **UNLESS** the infected individual entered the school or a school setting. The student or staff member who lives with infected individual would be considered a close contact and asked to self quarantine for 14 days.

- 3. If one student in a classroom tests positive for COVID-19, is everyone in that same classroom considered a close contact?**

Each positive case within a classroom will be investigated to determine if other students/staff are close contacts. Identifying close contacts is **not** limited to 6 feet for 15 minutes or longer.

- 4. How will schools know if a student or staff member tested positive for COVID-19?**

School employees who test positive should notify their employer. DOH will notify the employer (school) of a staff member who tests positive for purposes of contact tracing. DOH will also notify employer of sentinel testing results (if school is participating), both negative and positive. The sentinel testing consent form will cover this notification.

DOH will notify district superintendent of a student who tests positive for purposes of contact tracing.

An individual staff member or student may receive notification of a positive result from their provider sooner than the DOH receives notification. Once a positive test result is received by the DOH, an investigator will alert individuals directly.

Special Locations

- ✓ What are special locations?
 - ✓ Places where public school is providing services or instruction (eg., private schools, Hutterite Colony schools within district)
- ✓ Contact tracing done by the Department of Health working closely with each of these entities
- ✓ Treat these attendance centers as you would any of your attendance centers for COVID-related practices
- ✓ Work on crafting, or updating, an agreement with any of these special locations that addresses management expectations during a pandemic

Reminders

- ✓ Office Hours starting Monday, Aug. 10
 - ✓ Zoom participation information sent out to COVID listserv several times this week; will be sent again Monday morning
- ✓ Sentinel testing information out on Monday of next week; enrollment to start Friday of next week

Questions?

