

# **Perry Community School District**

## **2023-2024 Return to Learn On-Site Manual**

**August, 2023**

It is our goal to keep all families, staff and members of the community safe while on our campus. At this time, for the start of school we will be following similar practices as seen in the past years. We will revise if new guidelines are updated. We ask that everyone do their part in reducing the spread of COVID-19. Practicing good hand washing, monitor yourself for symptoms, and stay home if you are ill!

#### **COVID-19 Policy:**

- Everyone should be aware that exposure to the Covid-19 virus could happen at any time and any place. Experts believe we will continue to see periodic waves of infection and re-infections may be common.
- Monitoring our community level. If we start to see an increase, we will re-evaluate the policy and make changes as warranted. Understand exposure risks and utilize available tools.
- Student, staff and families/community members need to stay home when they are not feeling well. If you feel ill, take your temperature. If it is 100.0 degrees or higher you need to stay home. Ask yourself the following questions, "are you coughing, short of breath, do you have a headache?" These are a few symptoms that would warrant you to stay home, go to the doctor, or get a self COVID test. Please call the school nurse so she can help you with what to do next.
- Parents will be notified to come to the school and pick their child up if they are displaying any of the following symptoms: Fever of 100.0 degrees, shortness of breath, coughing, vomiting, headache, or other illness deemed appropriate by the school nurse or building principal.
- **Please ensure that emergency contact information is updated with any changes. This information is critical when your child is ill. We must have correct numbers and work numbers. It is expected that a parent or other assigned person be here within one hour of the phone call that your child needs to be picked up.**
- A child who is ill with potential COVID-19 symptoms will be evaluated by the school nurse. Your child will be isolated while parents are called and wait for them to pick up their child. The child will be masked until the parents arrive.
- Classroom will be disinfected (if a positive COVID case is confirmed) immediately.
- As soon as the school is aware of a Positive case, we will continue to follow the IDPH Guidelines of sending students home. Day zero is the date symptoms started, or the day you get your positive results. The next day is day one. Count 5 calendar days. You must isolate yourself from all activities on days 1-5. If on day 6 they are feeling much better with no fever and improved symptoms, they may return to school and activities. We recommend they wear a mask on days six through ten.
- A student may return to school when they are fever free for 24 hours. (Without using Tylenol or Ibuprofen). They also may return if their symptoms are much better, it has at last 5 days from the date of symptoms. The school recommends wearing a mask on days six through ten.
- Any student who tests positive is required to stay home for the first 5 days.
- If someone in your home tests positive, or your child has been directly exposed to a positive case, please notify the school building. The nurse will help figure out days until they return. If you have no symptoms, you can return to school wearing a mask for ten days. If you

develop one or more symptoms of COVID you must stay home and test yourself on days 5-7. If all symptoms are improving, and you have no fever, you may return with a negative COVID test.

### **Illness Policy:**

- Consistent with the Iowa Department of Health and school policies, students, staff and visitors who are ill should stay home. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention does not recommend that schools screen staff and students upon entering the building, as one symptom is not necessarily indicative of communicable disease. However, both staff and students are expected to check their own temperature if they are not feeling well before they leave their home. If you have a temperature over 100.0 degrees you need to stay home.
- If any change in students' behavior that prevents a child from participating comfortably in activities. A need for care that is greater than the staff can provide without compromising the health and safety of others.
- Listed below are the illness and reasons your student should not attend school or may be sent home:
  - a. Chicken Pox, may return after blisters are gone
  - b. COVID-19 (See COVID Policy)
  - c. Diarrhea, must be 24 hours from last stool.
  - d. Impetigo, may return once seen by a doctor and on an antibiotic for at least 24 hours, and if any blisters are covered.
  - e. Whooping Cough, may return after 5 days on an antibiotic.
  - f. Strep Throat, may return when resolution of exclusion criteria and have been on an antibiotic for at least 24 hours.
  - g. Vomiting, may return after no vomiting for 24 hours.
  - h. Anytime the nurses assess a student and feel the students need to go home based on her assessment.

Communication is essential. Please keep the school informed of any new phone numbers, or changes in emergency contact information. Please make sure you have given the school permission for your student to receive Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Tums, cough drops. If the nurse does not have this on file for 2023-2024 school year, we are not able to give them anything!

Feel free to call the nurse for your student if you have questions.

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