

COVID-19 Return to School Health Plan

(to be used in conjunction with the return to school master plan)

The purpose of this policy is to outline the BCCU#2 return to school guidelines and re-opening of campus after the COVID-19 pandemic. These guidelines have been carefully considered to address and promote the safety, health, and welfare of our community.

Student COVID-19 Self Certification and Verification

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in order to ensure a safe and healthy environment within the school community, guidance from ISBE and IDPH require that every student undergo daily symptom screening prior to utilizing BCCU#2 district transportation or entering any BCCU#2 district building. Parents/Guardians will be conducting this daily symptom screening prior to their student departing for school and reporting consistent with the parameters outlined below. The Student COVID-19 Self-Certification and Verification Form must be signed and returned to the school district prior to the first day of student attendance of the 2020-2021 school year. This is accessible through the district website.

Parents/Guardians will verify prior to utilizing BCCU#2 district transportation and/or entering a BCCU#2 district building, their student(s) will receive a daily symptom screening at home by an adult caregiver to determine if their student(s) are experiencing any of the following COVID-19 symptoms:

- Temperature if 100.0 (or greater) degrees Fahrenheit/38 degrees Celsius;
- **New** uncontrolled Cough;(for allergy and asthma sufferers this would be a change from their baseline)
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing;
- Chills;
- Fatigue
- Muscle and body aches;
- **New** onset of severe Headache; with or without fever
- Sore throat;
- New loss of taste or smell;
- Congestion or runny nose;
- Nausea and/or vomiting;
- Diarrhea; or
- Any other COVID-19 symptoms identified by the CDC or IDPH

By sending students on BCCU#2 district transportation and/or to school on any given day, parents/guardians are certifying and verifying that their student(s) have received daily symptom screening and not experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. If a student is found to be experiencing any of the above symptoms at the time of daily screening, the parent/guardian will notify the school by phone or in writing of their students absence by

sending an email to the school nurse of your student(s) building and indicating the above symptoms that their student is experiencing. In the event district staff would contact the parent/guardian to gather additional information related to the results of their student's daily screening, the parent/guardian will provide the necessary information as requested.

- ❖ **GES/GJHS/GHS: Carisa Bohannon, 664-3117 ext 104, cbohannon@bccu2.org**
- ❖ **KRP/PES/SES: Ashley Miller, 664-5009 ext 716, amiller@bccu2.org**

Employee COVID-19 Self Certification and Verification

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in order to ensure a safe and healthy environment for our school community guidance from ISBE and IDPH requires that every employee undergo a daily symptom screening prior to utilizing BCCU# district transportation (i.e. bus drivers, bus aides/monitors, etc.) or entering any BCCU#2 district building. Employees will conduct this daily symptom screening on each day prior to their arrival for work and report consistent with the parameters outlined below, until otherwise notified by the District in writing. The google form will be sent out by the BCCU#2 district nurses and use of the form is expected to be done upon receipt.

Employees will conduct a daily symptom screening to determine if they have any of the following COVID-19 symptoms:

- Temperature if 100.0 (or greater) degrees Fahrenheit/38 degrees Celsius;
- **New** uncontrolled Cough;(for allergy and asthma sufferers this would be a change from their baseline)
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing;
- Chills;
- Fatigue
- Muscle and body aches;
- **New** onset of severe Headache; especially with fever
- Sore throat;
- New loss of taste or smell;
- Congestion or runny nose;
- Nausea and/or vomiting;
- Diarrhea; or
- Any other COVID-19 symptoms identified by the CDC or IDPH

By reporting to work on any given day, employees are certifying and verifying that they are not experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. If employees experience any of the above symptoms at any time during the work day, they will immediately notify their building principal by phone or email and isolate themselves away from other employees and students pending further direction from the district, and provide necessary information as requested.

When to Return To School

- **COVID-19 Test Results Pending:** A student or staff member that has been tested for COVID-19 should not return to school until notified of their results.
- **COVID-19 test positive:** A student or staff member who tests positive for COVID-19 will be required to quarantine at home per the Bond County Health Department Public Health Guidelines. A parent should notify the school nurse if their child tests positive, so that contact tracing can be initiated. A student must stay home at least 10 days from onset of symptoms and 24 hours with no fever (without taking fever reducing medications) and improvement of other symptoms-whichever is longer. A release letter may be required from the health department to return to school.
- **COVID-19 test negative:** A student or staff member that tests negative for COVID-19 may return to school once they have been fever free for 24 hours, without taking fever reducing medications (i.e. Tylenol, Advil, etc) and/or have been 24 hours without vomiting/diarrhea.
- **Not Tested for COVID-19:** If anyone of the following symptoms are present: Fever(100.0 or higher), fatigue, body aches, new onset headache, shortness of breath, new cough(different from allergy/asthma baseline), sore throat, congestion or runny nose, new loss of sense of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and/or abdominal pain, a medical evaluation to rule out COVID-19 or other infectious diseases is recommended. If your medical provider suspects COVID-19 but does not test, the student or staff member should stay home at least 10 days from onset of symptoms and 24 hours with no fever (without fever reducing medications) and improvement of other symptoms-whichever is longer. Testing for COVID-19 is recommended by IDPH with any one of these symptoms.
- **Close Contact of COVID-19+ Individual:** If a student or staff member is considered to be a close contact of an individual that has tested positive for COVID-19,(even if the student or staff member would test negative for COVID-19), then they will be required to quarantine at home and may not attend school for at least 14 days from last contact with the individual or released by the Bond County Health Department. In some situations the close contact may be directed to quarantine for an additional 10 days, making a total of 24 days of quarantine, as directed by the health department and the individual case circumstances. A release letter may be requested for student or staff return. Close contact is defined as being within 6 ft of that individual for more than 15 minutes.
- **Check in Procedure upon return to school:** Students and staff members returning from illness from COVID-19 should check in with the school nurse or administration following isolation/quarantine. Teachers or office staff will notify the school nurse or administration as soon as the student is present. Student and staff temperature will be taken and symptoms evaluated to determine if criteria for discontinuation of isolation/quarantine have been prior to returning to class.

1. Sick Day Guidelines

Symptoms Requiring Absence

Fever/chills/generalized body aches

1. **Fever constitutes 100.0 degrees or higher.**

2. If presenting with COVID-19 symptoms (**fever, new onset cough(different from asthma/allergy baseline), shortness of breath,chills,fatigue,muscle aches,new onset headaches,sore throat,loss of taste and smell,runny or congested nose,nausea,vomiting or diarrhea**), **they may not enter building** and must follow up with a medical provider with a clearance note prior to returning to school.
 - a. Have a parent/guardian call the Illinois COVID hotline 1-800-889-3931 or the Bond County Health Department at 618-664-1442 for guidance regarding presenting symptoms if testing for COVID-19 is warranted.
 - b. Per IDPH and CDC guidance for those who have symptoms but are NOT tested or have similar symptoms:

"Persons with COVID-19 who have symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home may discontinue home isolation under the following conditions:

 1. At least 24 hours have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and,
 2. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared."

2. Return to school after illness

1. Students will be checked in by school nurse,or administration if the nurse is not available, if absent with sickness previous day. Must have medical release from the MD upon return to school and reviewed by the nurse.
2. Teacher or office staff will notify the school nurse as soon as the student is present.
3. Student's temperature will be checked and symptoms evaluated prior to returning to class.

3. School Support

1. Students, faculty, and staff will be required to stay home if they are sick. If an individual presents to school with the above-mentioned "Sick Day Guidelines" symptoms, they will need to be isolated and to go home until clearance criteria through an MD is obtained for school return is met.
2. What can be treated in the classroom to limit health room congestion
 - a. In order to prevent potential exposure to infectious diseases, promote isolation, and decrease office congestion please note that students do **NOT**

need to present to the Health Office with the following common situations:

- Paper cuts, small abrasions, picked scabs, splinters, loose teeth - have them wash hands and apply band aid if needed. First aid kits in pods.

4. Nonpharmacological Intervention (NPI) Recommendations for Communicable Disease

1. Individual

Wear face mask/covering at all times, except when eating and/or outside and able to maintain 6ft of social distancing

Education will be provided to staff and students during the first week of school. Education topics consist of hand washing, importance of maintaining social distancing, importance of wearing a facial covering, ways to stay healthy, and other topics relevant by age via a slide show.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Stay home when you are sick.

Cover your cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Follow with hand hygiene.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. If you do, wash your hands afterwards. Wash hands often with soap and water (20 seconds).

If you don't have soap, use hand sanitizer (60-95% alcohol based).

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe daily (ex: playground equipment, door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains, toys, desks).

Ensure all vaccines are up to date of self and household members.

Promote non contact methods of greeting

Work with school counselors to promote ways to decrease fear, stigma, anxiety and address social emotional needs

2. Environmental

High touch surface cleaning with disinfectant noted to kill COVID19

Routine environmental cleaning; clean high traffic areas (bathrooms, cafeteria, gym, office) during the day, when needing immediate attention, and at the end of the day

Posters throughout campus encouraging frequent handwashing, mask etiquette, markings on floor for social distancing cues, directing flow of traffic into building and exiting out

Hand sanitizer dispensing units at each building entrance

Limit food-sharing activities

Attempt to increase ventilation in buildings

• **Isolation and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Standards in the Health Office**

******These PPE standards are current best practice due to the current PPE shortage during the COVID-19 pandemic. They are subject to change based on national supply and infectious disease outbreak.***

5. Standard PPE during Pandemic

1. Soap and water scrubbing for 20 seconds is the preferred method. Hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol is also acceptable.
2. Cloth masks **will be required** for all teachers, staff, and students. Face coverings must be worn at all times inside school buildings even when social distancing is maintained. Face coverings do not need to be worn outside if social distancing of 6ft is maintained. Face coverings may be removed for individuals who are having trouble breathing.
3. Appropriate PPE must be utilized in conjunction with universal precautions and proper hand hygiene. Hand hygiene is required before and after each office encounter and after each intervention.

6. Respiratory Condition and Febrile

1. **100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or higher** to match our sick day guidelines
2. Investigate if the individual has been exposed to a person with positive or presumed positive COVID-19.
3. Isolate student or staff in separate area. Staff member who is accompanying them to isolation room needs to wear full PPE gown, gloves, and respiratory protection. Also consider face shields and eye protection if available.
4. Must be sent home and follow up with a medical provider with a clearance note prior to returning
5. Have parent/guardian call COVID hotline or Bond County Health Department for guidance regarding presenting symptoms if testing for COVID-19 is warranted.
6. Students or staff who are exposed to an individual suspected with having Covid-19 must be immediately separated from the rest of the school population, and be sent home to monitor symptoms at home for a minimum of 14 days. **Schools are not expected to test students or staff to identify cases of COVID-19.** Screen siblings and close contacts for fever and symptoms, screening and contact tracing to be performed by Bond County Health Department. Educate on self monitoring of symptoms.
7. Ensure adequate education has been provided to recognize symptoms. Although symptoms are individualized and variable, sometimes even asymptomatic, the

CDC has recognized that the primary symptoms are FEVER, COUGH, and SHORTNESS OF BREATH.

- a. Consider presenting at common times, etc. to educate symptoms, disease transmission, and separate fact from fiction.
- b. If school has direct cases of COVID-19, local health officials will help identify those individuals and we will collaborate to follow up on next steps.
- c. Call healthcare providers for further guidance.

8. Individuals who did not have close contact with the person who is sick may return to school and work as advised through the Bond County Health Department.

7. Fever Free Routine Visits

1. Clean area in health office for medication administration, injuries, tube feeding, insulin administration
2. This space will be separate from isolation area

8. Communicable Disease Monitoring

1. RN will monitor community illness for communicable disease trends and absentee rates. Collaborate with school secretaries to record symptoms when students are called in sick. Provide a symptom tracking sheet to be used by secretaries, if needed calls may be transferred to the nurse for further investigation.
2. This also applies to faculty/staff illness absences.
3. If 2 or more students or staff with presumptive COVID-19 are identified, closure and disinfecting will be directed through the Bond County Health Department.

9. Pandemic Considerations During Phase 4

1. In the event of ongoing/prolonged community transmission of COVID19, follow recommendations set forth by IDPH and CDC.
2. Increased spacing of students in classrooms as much as possible (separating desks, no shared desks), in common areas (staggering or limiting number of students in one area such as hallways, playgrounds and restrooms) and on buses (limit number of riders and space kids one to a seat in every other row. If feasible, consider partitions).
3. Limit mixing between groups of 50 people or less in one space while being able to maintain social distancing. Lunches to be served in groups of 50, while maintaining strict 6ft social distancing so masks may be removed. Mark individual seating with visual cues

to maintain social distancing. Any areas where food is served to be disinfected after eating prior to the next groups arriving. Hand hygiene to be performed before and after. Scheduled restroom breaks for each class with posted times, allow 2 students to enter the restroom at one time, once they leave allow 2 more students until class break is complete.

4. Restrict Nonessential visitors, volunteers, activities, and clubs.
5. No sharing of food (no classroom parties), books, art supplies, and electronics. Keep child's belongings separated from others in cubbies or trash bags.
6. Support faculty, staff, and students who require or choose to have prolonged periods of absenteeism due to community transmission of virus.
7. Support other staffing departments in the new climate upon return to school, such as custodial services and new guidelines for cleaning and PPE procedures.