

September 14, 2021

Dear PWSSD Staff and Families

We hope that this letter finds all of you well, and that your school year is off to a wonderful start.

As we indicated in our August 17th letter, we have and will continue to monitor the data regarding the spread of COVID-19, and review the recommendations and guidelines from the CDC, the Washington Ozaukee Public Health Department, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), and the Department of Public Instruction (DPI).

On September 13, 2021, the Port Washington-Saukville Board of Education approved the COVID-19 Response Team's recommendation for changes to the District's current safety protocols and mitigation strategies. These changes are as follows:

1. **Unvaccinated** close contacts within the same household to a confirmed positive COVID-19 individual **MUST** quarantine (families can still make their own decision regarding the need to quarantine for close contacts at this time, except in instances of confirmed positive cases within the same household).
2. The metric for determining if masking will be moved from "should" to "must" mask for a minimum of 20 calendar days, and until the site-positive case rate drops, has been changed from 5% to 3% of a total student/staff population at the building-level.

As a reminder, the following mitigation strategies (as communicated on August 17th, 2021) are still in place:

- All children and adults should wear masks indoors. This includes in school buildings and at all school-sponsored activities, including athletics held indoors. At this time, the District continues to support everyone in making their own family decisions regarding wearing a mask.
- All children and adults must wear masks on school buses and school transportation, per federal guidelines.
- Isolation protocols will remain the same for individuals who are symptomatic or have a positive COVID-19 test, resulting in a need to isolate through 10 days from symptom onset or positive test date (whichever comes first).
- Children or adults exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual should quarantine, **except** in cases where one of the following conditions apply:

1. You are identified as a close contact to a COVID-19 positive individual, have worn a mask when in contact with this person, and you are symptom free.
2. You are identified as a close contact to a COVID-19 positive individual while participating in outdoor activities/sports with or without a mask, and you are symptom-free.
3. You are identified as a close contact to a COVID-19 positive individual, are fully vaccinated (it has been over 14 days since you received the second vaccination) and you are symptom-free.

Additional updated information regarding our COVID-19 guidance and protocols, along with the Absence/Homework Protocol for when students are in quarantine or isolation, can be found on our District website [here](#).

It is our hope that these changes, along with the continuation of our other mitigation strategies, will keep our students and staff safe and in school. If you have questions, please contact your building principal. As always, we appreciate your patience and support.

Best Regards,

Port Washington-Saukville School District COVID-19 Response Team