

Porter Township School Corporation

Health Guidance 2020-2021



Addressing Community Spread Based on 7 Day Rolling Average Positivity Rate in Porter County (As determined by Porter County Health Department)

Green (Plan A)	Yellow (May Use Plan A or Plan B)	Red (Plan C)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and maintain communication with Local Health Department Officials Community positivity rate of 0-5%, in person instruction is advisable with safety modifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and maintain communication with Local Health Department Officials Community Positivity Rate of 6-12% In-person or hybrid models are acceptable with safety modifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID-19 spread is such that rolling closures are needed (could be short term or long term) Community Positivity rate of 13% or higher eLearning utilized as the model of instruction

Screening to be Completed **by Parent** Each School Day

Notify your school immediately of any positive test or absence:

PLE: <https://forms.gle/pkBfuheC88zytqHr7>






BGMS: <https://forms.gle/FAc4ca9e8gWq87iC7>

BGE: <https://forms.gle/7UyNwrjWnAB4EKBz7>

BGHS: <https://forms.gle/BrusPRzr4eiih7WT9>

COVID-19 Screening for Parents

Every morning before you send your child to school please check for signs of illness:

<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
	FEVER 100.4* OR CHILLS <small>*or school board policy if threshold is lower</small>		SORE THROAT		COUGH* OR SHORTNESS OF BREATH <small>*especially new onset, uncontrolled cough</small>
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
	DIARRHEA, NAUSEA OR VOMITING, ABDOMINAL PAIN		HEADACHE* <small>*particularly new onset of severe headache, especially with fever</small>		NEW LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL

**May present with more than one symptom. This list does not include all possible symptoms.*

- 1** Does your child have any sign of illness above?
 - 2** Were you in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with anyone confirmed with COVID-19?
 - 3** If the answer is **YES** to any of the questions, **DO NOT** send your student to school. Instead, begin isolation of your child and contact your healthcare provider. Have you been tested for COVID-19? Only a positive test or provider diagnosis can confirm if someone has a current infection.
 - 4** Please keep your student home until they meet the criteria on the chart on back of the page.
- If you have trouble breathing, chest pain, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake or bluish lips or face **CALL 911!****



Updated: 8/27/20

https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/20_Parent%20screening%208-27-20.pdf

Statistics for Porter County	The latest data can be found on the Porter County Dashboard: https://www.porterco.org/1638/Dashboard-for-DESKTOP-DEVICES						
If someone in your home is being tested (swab) for COVID-19 due to direct contact to a known positive case or signs of COVID-19:	Individuals should remain home if someone is being tested (swab) for COVID-19 due to direct contact to a known positive case or due to testing because they have signs of COVID-19. If test results for the household member are negative the individual may return if symptom free.						
Contact Tracing and Communication to School Community if there is a Known Positive	<p>The following steps will be taken when PTSC is notified by parent or by the Health Department of a positive COVID-19 result:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. PTSC will use absence data collected along with seating charts to determine who has been a close contact.2. PTSC is required to provide that data to the State Department of Health and will also work with our Porter County Department of Health. The Porter County Department of Health works to contact close contacts to provide guidance.3. PTSC will notify those who have been deemed close contacts at school.4. The Porter County Health Department or Indiana State Health Department will contact the person who tested positive, determine if there are any additional close contacts that happened outside of school, and will contact those people. If you receive a call from the Porter County Health Department, please answer.5. PTSC will communicate with parents and staff that we have had a positive COVID-19 result within our school community. We will not release the building or differentiate between staff or student. Why? Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records maintained the school corporation which specifically prohibits disclosure of personal identifiable information. This refers to information that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity either directly or indirectly. Legally, we have been cautioned to ensure that in releasing facts, we do not disclose other information that, alone or in combination, would allow a reasonable person in the school community to identify the student(s) who are absent due to COVID-19 with reasonable certainty. Under the American's with Disabilities Act, we are prohibited from sharing that data about our staff. We are not trying to be evasive; we are trying to follow the law.						
Outbreak	<p>Outbreak: A school outbreak occurs when the number or percentage of cases within a school cannot be traced back to outside events or 1-2 infected families. This makes it more likely that transmission is happening within the classroom or school and cannot be contained without disinfecting and quarantine. Unless it can be determined that the outbreak is contained to one area or cohort within the school, it will be recommended that the school go to eLearning for 2 weeks. Outbreaks will be defined as follows:</p> <table><tr><td>Population of School</td><td>< 400 students</td><td>> 400</td></tr><tr><td>Number of Cases</td><td>4 or more current cases</td><td>1 % or greater of current cases within the school</td></tr></table>	Population of School	< 400 students	> 400	Number of Cases	4 or more current cases	1 % or greater of current cases within the school
Population of School	< 400 students	> 400					
Number of Cases	4 or more current cases	1 % or greater of current cases within the school					

COVID-19:

When a student, faculty or staff member can return to school

Purpose: The purpose of this document is to assist school healthcare staff and public health officials in determining if a student or faculty/staff member needs to be excluded from the facility for COVID-19 **quarantine** or **isolation**. The chart uses three criteria to determine this: close contact, symptoms, and COVID-19 test status.

How to use: The first step is to determine if the individual was a close contact to a COVID-19 case based on the definition below and then selecting the appropriate chart on the next page. The second step is to determine if the individual is showing symptoms of COVID-19 (symptomatic) or not. Finally, determine if the person was tested for COVID-19 and the result of the test. Key definitions are provided below.

Definitions:

Isolation means keeping sick people away from healthy ones. This usually means that the sick person rests in his or her own bedroom or area of your home and stays away from others. This includes staying home from school.

Quarantine means separating people who were around someone who was sick, just in case they get sick. Since people who were around other sick people are more likely to get sick themselves, quarantine prevents them from unintentionally spreading the virus to other people even before they realize they are sick. Usually, people who are in **quarantine** stay at home and avoid going out or being around other people. This includes staying home from school.



Updated: 8/27/20

https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/20_Student%20Guidance%20for%20Return%20to%20School_8-27-20.pdf

Close contact: An individual is considered a close contact if any of following is true:

- Was within 6 feet of a positive person for more than 15 minutes total in a day.
 - Had physical contact with the person.
 - Had direct contact with the respiratory secretions of the person (i.e., from coughing, sneezing, contact with dirty tissue, shared drinking glass, food, or other personal items).
 - Lives with or stayed overnight for at least one night in a household with the person.
- These close contact criteria apply regardless of mask use, face shields, or physical barriers, such as Plexiglas or plastic barriers. The only exception is if a healthcare worker in a school setting is wearing the proper personal protective equipment. When an individual's symptom, contact, or test status changes, the **quarantine** or **isolation** requirements should be reassessed.

Symptoms of COVID-19 *(Does not include all possible symptoms)*

- Temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher (or school board policy if threshold is lower)
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/ asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Diarrhea, nausea or vomiting, abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
- New loss of taste or smell



Individual is NOT a known close contact to a COVID-19 case:



Individual	Symptomatic	No Symptoms
Not tested for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The individual must remain home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement of symptoms. Siblings and household members should follow the close contact chart below for exclusion. If diagnosed with another condition that explains the symptoms, such as ear or bladder infection, individual does need to isolate and close contacts do not need to quarantine, doctor's note required to return to school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May attend school.
Tested and negative for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The individual must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of symptoms, unless otherwise advised by a healthcare provider. If diagnosed with another condition, the individual must complete the exclusion period for the diagnosed disease. Please provide proof of negative COVID-19 test (not antibody). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May attend school.
Tested and positive for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The individual must isolate at home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement in symptoms. Repeat testing is NOT recommended for making decisions about when people can return to work or school. Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should follow the close contact chart below. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must isolate at home for 10 days after the day the sample was collected. Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should follow the close contact chart below.

Individual IS a known close contact to a COVID-19 case:

Individual	Symptomatic	No Symptoms
Not tested for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The individual must quarantine for 14 days after the last contact with the COVID-19-positive person. If the exposure is to a household member and the case cannot properly isolate away from others at home, the last date of contact may be the last day of isolation for the positive person. The individual must also remain home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement of symptoms. The criteria in both of the above bullets must be met before returning to school. Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should also follow this chart to determine quarantine length. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must quarantine for 14 days from the date of last exposure before returning to school or day care. If the exposure is to a household member and the case cannot properly isolate away from others at home, the last date of contact may be the last day of isolation for the positive person. If an individual who is a close contact becomes symptomatic, refer to the symptomatic scenarios.
Tested and negative for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The individual must quarantine for 14 days after contact with the COVID-19-positive person, even if the student has an alternate diagnosis for symptoms. If still symptomatic after the 14 days, individual must wait to return to school until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of symptoms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must quarantine for 14 days from the date of last exposure before returning to school or day care. If the exposure is to a household member and the case cannot properly isolate away from others at home, the last date of contact may be the last day of isolation for the positive person. If an individual who is a close contact becomes symptomatic, refer to the symptomatic scenarios.
Tested and positive for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The individual must isolate at home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement in symptoms. Repeat testing is NOT recommended for making decisions about when people can return to work or school. Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should also follow this chart to determine quarantine length. If the close contact tests positive, isolation starts on the day of symptom onset and isolation may end prior to the last day of quarantine or after the 14 days of quarantine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must isolate at home for 10 days after the day the sample was collected. Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should follow this chart.

Updated: 8/27/20

https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/20_Student%20Guidance%20for%20Return%20to%20School_8-27-20.pdf

AUGUST 28, 2020 PTSC Health Guidance: 2020-2021

Where Can I Get Tested for COVID-19?

Notify your school immediately of any positive test or absence:

PLE: <https://forms.gle/pkBfuheC88zytqHr7>

BGMS: <https://forms.gle/FAc4ca9e8gWq87iC7>

BGE: <https://forms.gle/7UyNwrjWnAB4EKBz7>

BGHS: <https://forms.gle/BrusPRzr4eih7WT9>

COVID-19 Testing is Now Available in Porter County to ANY Hoosier Who Wants to be Tested!

COVID-19 testing is now available BY APPOINTMENT ONLY in Porter County.

Hoosiers will not be charged for testing and insurance is not required.

If you have private health insurance, please bring your insurance information with you.

Go to **REGISTER FOR COVID-19 TESTING ONLINE** to set up an appointment.

-or-

Call 888-634-1123 to set up an appointment

PTSC Parent and Staff Wolf Pack Pledge

**For the strength of the Pack is the Wolf,
And the strength of the Wolf is the Pack.**

Rudyard Kipling, The Jungle Book

**I pledge to protect all Porter Township School Corporation Wolves and our community.
I will do this by:**

- **Screening each day before coming to work or school**
- **Staying home or keeping my child home when signs of illness are present**
- **Not coming to work or sending my child with medication to mask potential COVID-19 symptoms or signs of illness**
- **Wearing a mask at all times, except during mask breaks as given by a PTSC staff member**
- **Social distancing whenever possible**
- **Washing my hands or using hand sanitizer frequently**
- **Believing the best about people**
- **Not spreading rumors or gossip**
- **If I have an issue or concern, address it with the person directly, and not via social media**