



The Governor along with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) is making a change on quarantine recommendations for people that have been exposed to a positive COVID-19 case. This applies in non-healthcare, non-residential settings only. This includes businesses, education and child care settings. Close contact of COVID-19 positive cases will no longer need to be quarantined for 14 days if a face covering was worn consistently and correctly by the positive case and close contacts. The positive case must isolate. The close contacts should self-monitor.

- Self-monitoring entails close monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms over the subsequent 14 days, staying home if any symptoms develop, and speaking with a healthcare provider about COVID-19 testing in the case of any illness.
- If people who are self-monitoring become ill but do not get tested, they should remain home until 10 days after symptom onset.
- People currently in quarantine may be released from quarantine if a proper face covering was worn consistently and correctly by the positive case and close contacts during exposure.
- [Face coverings or masks should meet the CDC guidelines](#). Gaiters and face shields do not meet CDC recommendations for an approved face covering. A 14-day quarantine is still required if face coverings or masks do not have two or more layers or if not worn properly by either the person who has COVID-19 or the persons in close contact. We suggest a 2-ply face mask for all students and staff.
- If the positive case wore a proper face covering, but close contacts did not, those close contacts must be quarantined.
- If the positive case did not wear a face covering, close contacts must quarantine whether or not they wore a face covering.
- Quarantine of close contacts will still be necessary in residential and healthcare settings.

Currently positive COVID-19 cases across the district are .1 percent. A representative from the district will continue to reach out to individuals/families impacted with a personal phone call. If you have not received any related communication, your child is not impacted. What is important to note based on the recommendation shared today, is since the first day of school in our district, zero individuals have tested positive from a school exposure while in quarantine. Our mitigation strategies are working and we will continue to monitor our population to ensure safety measures are being met. If this data should change we will act accordingly to reflect our environment.

Students who are currently in quarantine due to a close contact will be contacted about returning to school as soon as possible; please wait until you receive this contact from the school. If your student would have been around an individual without a face mask they will still remain in quarantine for the remainder of the current quarantine time period.

We continue to ask If your child should test positive for COVID-19, please notify your child's building principal or school nurse right away. In addition, we ask that if a student or staff member is waiting on COVID-19 test results to please stay home.

Scott Grimes, Superintendent