



May 5, 2021

Dear RCS Families,

We appreciate our community's continued support to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

New guidance has been released by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Service (MDHHS) and the Oakland County Health Division (OCHD). The following is an overview for our school community.

- 10-day quarantine. Due to the current downward trend in COVID-19 cases across Oakland County, OCHD is supporting the option of a 10-day quarantine period after an individual comes in close contact with another person who has tested positive for COVID-19. This decision is based on the May 6, 2021, MDHHS epidemic order. The RCS COVID-19 response team is currently reviewing all district quarantine cases and will be adjusting timelines based on the new guidance. OCHD defines a close contact as someone who has been within 6 feet of a COVID-19 positive individual for a total of 15 minutes or more. OCHD will continue to monitor trends and may recommend a return to a 14-day quarantine if the average number of cases continually increase over a 28-day period.
- Student-athlete testing. Routine COVID-19 testing will no longer be required for fully vaccinated and asymptomatic student-athletes. Masks continue to be required for contact sports, but are no longer required outdoors during active practice and competition for non-contact sports. MDHHS provided the following example: softball and baseball players, for instance, will be required to wear a mask in the dugout, but not when at bat or playing first base.
- General mask guidance. To encourage outdoor activities during the spring and summer months, MDHHS does not generally require masks to be worn outdoors unless a gathering has 100 or more people.
- Additional quarantine guidance. MDHHS guidance, dated April 15, 2021, states that fully vaccinated persons who meet the criteria are no longer required to quarantine following an exposure of COVID-19, provided the individual does not have any COVID-19 symptoms. Individuals should keep their COVID-19 vaccination record card to confirm their exemption from quarantine. The immune period begins two weeks after the final vaccination. Quarantine is also not required for individuals who have had COVID-19 within the past three months. Per the guidance of our public health experts, a negative antigen or PCR test will not exempt an individual from quarantine, nor will a positive antibody test.

MDHHS encourages all eligible community members to get vaccinated if possible and wear a mask, physically distance from others, wash hands, and stay home when sick.

Thank you for your continued support to keep our community safe.

Sincerely,

Robert Shaner, Ph.D.

Superintendent