Ontario County Public Health

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November 16, 2021

Dear Parent,

You are receiving this letter because your child is in quarantine for exposure to COVID-19 at school.

Yesterday, Ontario County leadership met with representatives from the NY State Department of Health to discuss the recent surge of cases. We also considered strategies to decrease the burden of quarantines on school children and their families while supporting safe, in person learning.

Beginning on Wednesday, November 17, 2021, Ontario County Public Health will:

- No longer require classroom contacts to quarantine if they are not experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.
- Continue to require close contacts on the bus and contacts within 6-feet during lunch to quarantine for 10 days.

If your child is currently in quarantine due to exposure at school and does not have symptoms, they may return to usual activities, including school, tomorrow.

Ontario County Public Health has notified the NY State Contact Tracing Program of this change, but it may take a few days for them to change their internal procedures regarding calling or texting parents. This should be short lived. Please be patient as we implement this new approach.

Important

1. With less quarantining, masking is even more essential. A proper fitting mask covers the nose and mouth snuggly without large gaps. Many children lower their masks to talk. Explain to your child that talking is the most important time to be masked.
2. If your child has developed symptoms during their recent quarantine, they may not return to school and should be tested.
3. Vaccination is available for children between the ages of 5 and 18 years of age. Check the Ontario County Public Health Website or FaceBook page for dates and times of clinics. Some pediatricians and pharmacists are also providing childhood COVID-19 vaccination. Vaccinated children who do not have symptoms will not be required to quarantine regardless of where they were exposed (home, school, church, sports team, etc.)

The remainder of your school community will be notified of this policy change soon.

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