

Parent Teams meeting: October 2020

General Information from the Nurse:

Medication- must be brought in by an adult. It is against school policy to send it in with your child. It must be in the original container with the attached prescription label. I can not accept any medication that does not fit the above requirement and must be accompanied by the doctor's medication order that is signed by the parent/guardian and the doctor.

Absences- Please indicate why your child is absent. This helps us track illnesses within the school. Your child may not return until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication and without symptoms.

Health room visits- The goal is to decrease the traffic to the nurse's office. We need to mitigate risk and reduce potential exposure as much as possible. Minor health concerns such as a small cut, lost tooth, chapped lips, mild stomachache or headache will be addressed in the classroom as much as possible. Obviously, anything more severe will be seen and evaluated by the nurse.

Covid-19:

Helpful Definitions regarding your child and Health Room directives:

Covid Positive- A student who has tested positive with a laboratory run test (PCR) test. CCPS will not accept a rapid test result. The student is considered contagious 2 days prior to testing or when symptoms began. If they are asymptomatic and test positive, we will go back 2 days from the test date. Parent will be advised on the CCPS/CCHD policy for a 10-day quarantine. Students deemed as close contacts to that student will be sent home for 14 days.

Covid-Like Illness- (Covid-19 suspicious): A student who is symptomatic. They are considered potentially contagious 2 days prior to the onset of symptoms. The nurse will be using a Decision Aid provided by CCPS and the Maryland dept of health and will be strictly adhered to. Student will be sent home and parent advised on the CCPS/CCHD policy for a 10-day quarantine.

Covid-Like Illness is defined as:

1. Any 1 of the following: Cough, Shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell.

OR

2. At least 2 of the following: Fever of 100 degree or higher (measured or subjective), chills or shaking chills, muscle aches, sore throat, headache, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, and congestion or runny nose.

***** The student sent home with Covid-Like symptoms may only return to school before the 10 days if a Physician completes a CCPS form stating that the child tested negative with a PCR test or there is an alternative diagnosis (i.e.. asthma, seasonal allergies, strep throat, ear infection, etc.). Students MUST be FEVER FREE for a full 24 hours without the use of Tylenol/Motrin and without symptoms for them to return to school. Please strictly adhere to these instructions or you will be called to pick up your child.

Close Contact (Potential Exposure of a student from a person who is Covid positive or has Covid-Like symptoms): In our school setting, students considered close contacts are those who were within 6 feet for 15 consecutive minutes, in relationship to the student presenting Covid positive or Covid-Like.

Any student meeting this definition will be sent home for a full 14 days from the last date of the exposure. Parents will be provided with the CCPS/CCHD policy with instructions upon picking up your child.

***** The student who is a close contact may only return before the 14 days if the suspected Covid positive student tests negative with a PCR test or is cleared by his/her Physician with an alternative diagnosis.

Consider sending in an extra set of clothes. These are helpful if your child spills something on themselves or has an accident. They can be kept in your child's locker. An extra mask, in case theirs gets soiled. Chap stick especially in the winter months. A water bottle.

Please contact me with any medical concerns regarding your child.

Jen Byers, RN, BSN

Parr's Ridge Elementary School

School Nurse