

SCHOOL OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

January 2022

Tangipahoa Parish School System



TANGIPAHOA PARISH
SCHOOL SYSTEM
EST. 1896

Melissa M. Stilley

Superintendent of Schools

As we approach the two-year anniversary of Governor Edwards' order closing our schools due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, we are still battling to keep our schools open and safe for our students to continue their education in person. We know the basic protective measures we must take to protect ourselves, and many will argue there are other measures to consider. The best measure to prevent the spread of the virus is to stay home when you are not feeling well. If you have fever and/ or cold-like symptoms, you should stay home and be tested. By working together, we can keep our schools open and our children safe.

Below is the 2022 Omicron update which reflects changes recommended in late December 2021. This update states that students who test positive for the virus are to stay home for **5** days, and if they have no symptoms, they may return to classes and wear a face covering for another **5** days. Previously, the quarantine period was **10** days of missed instruction.

PROTECTIVE MEASURES IN SCHOOL SETTINGS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Implementing social and physical distancing strategies to the greatest extent possible.
- Use of face coverings on school campuses is highly recommended, but considered optional in classrooms and school buildings. However, face coverings are required on school buses according to a federal mandate.
- Washing hands and/or using hand sanitizer frequently throughout the day.
- Utilizing respiratory etiquette: Covering coughs and sneezes by using your elbow or a tissue and by avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Intensifying cleaning and disinfecting efforts to maintain healthy facilities.
- Using contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine.
- Refraining from holding indoor social gatherings (e.g., school dances, pep rallies, school assemblies).
- Getting vaccinated and boosted when eligible.
- Limiting any nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations as much as possible. Essential visitors are individuals who must enter schools or early learning centers in order to conduct visits in accordance with Louisiana law or policy. Essential visitors include, but are not limited to, individuals who:
 - conduct CLASS® or NIET observations;
 - observe teacher candidates; and
 - provide essential supports and services including, but not limited to, early intervention education, special education services, or mental health consultations



SHOULD I REPORT TO SCHOOL?

**POSITIVE
COVID-19
TEST**

I have tested positive for Covid-19:

ISOLATE IF YOU TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19, REGARDLESS OF YOUR VACCINATION STATUS

Students and Employees who test positive for the virus are to stay home for 5 days.

After 5 days at home, if the student or employee no longer has symptoms, they may return to school and wear a face covering for another 5 consecutive days.

**SHOWING
SYMPTOMS**

I am showing symptoms for Covid-19:

The best measure to prevent the spread of the virus is to stay home when you are not feeling well. If you have fever and/or cold-like symptoms, you should stay home and be tested.

**EXPOSED
NO
SYMPTOMS**

I have been exposed to someone who has Covid-19, but I am not currently showing any symptoms of having the virus:

If you know that you have been in close contact with someone at home or school who has recently tested positive for Covid-19, please monitor your symptoms daily. When there is a suspected positive case of COVID-19 at your child's school or class, it is very likely that your child has been exposed to the COVID-19 infection. If you are not showing any covid-like symptoms, please come to school and wear a face covering around others for 5 consecutive days after your direct exposure.

Please be sure to isolate at home if you are having any of these COVID-19 like systems:

fever, chills, cough, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestions, runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea, or shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.

Students should be symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school.

Our new protocol for close contacts effective Tuesday, January 25, 2022