



February 7, 2023

School District of Lodi  
Board of Education  
115 School Street  
Lodi, WI 53555

Dear School District of Lodi Board of Education Members,

The medical advisory committee for the School District of Lodi met on February 7, 2023. At this meeting the committee reviewed the number of COVID-19 cases and other respiratory illnesses the District has experienced during the 2022-23 school year and the mitigation measures the District currently has in place. The committee also reviewed the COVID-19 data in our community, county, and State.

After reviewing this information, the medical advisory committee will be recommending that the District unwind a few more of their COVID-19 mitigation strategies. The committee feels that the District should not unwind all mitigation strategies at once, but should do so in a thoughtful and step-by-step way. This allows the District to monitor the impact of these changes. The committee would like to remind the Board and community, that even as the District takes steps to unwind current mitigation strategies, that the District continues to have students and staff who walk our hallways and family members of our students and staff who continue to be at higher risk for complications that come with COVID-19 and other respiratory infections. So the committee continues to encourage students, families, and staff to follow best practice when it comes to mitigating the spread of these illnesses, whether that be continuing with handwashing and cough/sneeze etiquette or wearing a mask when ill to help prevent the spread of an illness.

The medical advisory committee would recommend the District adjust the following mitigation strategies:

- The District should *highly recommend and encourage testing* for students and staff who have COVID-19 symptoms (this moves from required to highly recommend and encourage). The District should continue to accept home antigen tests and PCR tests.
- The District should *highly recommend and encourage* masking for all individuals who test positive for COVID-19 through day 10 until they produce a negative antigen test (move from required to highly recommend and encourage).

The District should continue the following:

- Continue to track and monitor respiratory and other illness rates and share this information with the families and staff when the information warrants.
- Continue to send out notifications for all positive COVID cases in classrooms/buildings.
- Allow positive COVID students and staff to return to school after they have been fever free for 24 hours and symptoms are significantly improved (same requirement as other illnesses).

The committee continues to advocate that students, staff, and family members in the School District of Lodi:

- Get the current flu vaccine
- Stay home when ill
- Practice good hand washing, cough, and sneeze etiquette
- Get the bivalent COVID-19 vaccine.

Some families may wish to consider face coverings if they have family members or caregivers that are particularly vulnerable to respiratory infections.

### **Summary**

The recommendations of the committee are based on the current district, community, and county data, what we continue to learn about COVID-19 through the research, and what we are seeing in our medical practices with other respiratory illnesses. We continue to be on call if necessary to help the district navigate any additional issues as they arise.

Sincerely,

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