

## **BASD Quarantine / Returning to School Criteria:**

**\*\*Staff and students with fevers or symptoms associated with COVID-19 should seek medical attention for further evaluation and instructions before returning to school.**

**Positive COVID illness requires a quarantine of 5 days and may return to school with strict mask use on day 6 if symptoms are gone and fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.**

### **For symptoms/illness, no known close contact:**

- Staff and students with symptoms that may be associated with COVID-19 and no known direct exposure to a person with COVID-19 may return to school when:
  - At least 5 days have passed since symptom onset;
    - AND at least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and other symptoms have improved.
    - OR - Provide a negative COVID test and fever free for 24 hours;
    - OR - Cleared in writing by healthcare provider and fever free for 24 hours.

### **Quarantine procedure for a close contact exposure:**

- **The term “Close Contact” means:**
  - You were within 3-6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for at least 15 minutes with or without a mask, unless you are fully vaccinated.
  - You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19.
  - Someone who has COVID-19 sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you.
- **The following people with recent exposure may NOT need to quarantine:**
  - 1. People who have been fully vaccinated AND are asymptomatic.**
    - Fully vaccinated guidelines include 14 days after primary series is complete.
    - If over 2 months post-J&J, or over 6 months from mRNA vaccines, must have booster to be considered fully vaccinated.
  - 2. People who were previously diagnosed with COVID-19 within the past 90 days AND are asymptomatic.**
  - 3. People who are enrolled in school’s Test-to-Stay Program and remain without symptoms.**
- **Steps to take: Stay home, quarantine, and monitor your health**
  - Stay home for 5 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19 (unless fully vaccinated and asymptomatic – see above guidelines).
  - Watch for fever (100.4°F), cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, sore throat, headache, loss of taste or smell, vomiting, diarrhea.
  - If possible, stay away from others, especially people who are at higher risk for getting very sick from COVID-19.
  - If no symptoms, return to school on day 6 with a mask through day 10.
- **For a household member who tested positive for COVID**
  - All household members complete a quarantine period of 5 days (unless fully vaccinated and asymptomatic – see above guidelines).

- Then anyone who is not positive will quarantine an additional 5 days after the positive family member's initial 5 day quarantine, while monitoring for symptoms (10 days from the first symptom of the positive family member)
- If no symptoms, return to school day 11 while wearing a mask through day 15.

**Protocol adapted from the following guidelines:**

PA HAN 615. (December 30, 2021 ) Isolation and Quarantine Periods for COVID 19 for the General Population. [2021-PAHAN615-12-30-UPD-Iso and Quar GenPop1.pdf](#)

PA DOH (accessed January 4, 2022) Guidance on Test to Stay in Schools. [Test to Stay \(pa.gov\)](#)

CDC. (November 5, 2021). Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>