

**Dickinson County Health Department**  
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## **Dickinson County Revised Quarantine Guidance for K-12 Schools**

Dickinson County Health Department has revised the K-12 school quarantine guidance for local school districts to allow students to continue in-person learning, while also continuing to mitigate the spread of Covid-19. This modification was decided following conversations with local school superintendents.

Students identified as a close contact during school or a school-related activity, may or may not have to quarantine at home based on the nature of the close contact/exposure. Students who are exposed outside of school/school-related activity are exempt from this guidance.

### **High-Risk Close Contact**

- Any situation where individuals were not wearing a mask (two-ply properly fitting mask worn over the mouth and nose) – when close contact criteria are met (10” or longer at 6’ or less)
- Consuming food/drink when close contact criteria are met (10” or longer at 6’ or less)
- Activities that include physical exertion, when close contact criteria are met, involving situations in which close contact was intermittent and over a period of extended time. Local health authorities will evaluate situations, in question, on a case-by-case basis
- Athletic activity that involves close, sustained contact between participants, lack of significant protective barriers, and high probability that respiratory droplets will be transmitted between participants
- Playing woodwind and brass instruments less than six feet apart without a bell barrier instrument mask
- Singing/shouting less than six feet apart without a mask
- This list is not an exhaustive list, other similar activities may also meet the definition of high-risk close contact. Guidance and recommendations may change as information evolves

### **Low-Risk Close Contact**

- Sitting next to an individual(s), in which all persons involved were properly masked (two-ply properly fitting mask worn over the mouth and nose), but social distancing was not met
- Riding on the same bus, following mask-wearing guidelines and sitting within 3’ of a positive case

## **Group Exclusions**

The risk of COVID-19 transmission is low if public health mitigation techniques, such as proper masking, social distancing and hand hygiene are followed. If transmission is occurring within a group setting (e.g. classroom, sports team, bus route), it is an indication that public health measures may not have been followed. Close contact individuals who had high-risk exposure will be quarantined. Entire teams will not be quarantined, unless multiple positive COVID-19 cases, in a 10-day period (2-3 positives, epi-link to others), occur. Students will not be quarantined if the opposing team has a participant that is positive for COVID-19, unless it is a high-risk close contact situation.

## **Process**

1. Parent/guardian will be notified if a student is a close contact (high-risk or low-risk)
2. If a student is a high-risk close contact, he/she will be quarantined per KDHE/DKHD guidelines and moved to remote learning
  - a. Student can return on day 11 following their last known exposure
3. If the student is a low-risk close contact, he/she will be given the option to continue in-school learning or move to remote learning
4. Teacher/staff can return on day 11 following their last known exposure

This guidance will be monitored by the Dickinson County Health Department and Dickinson County Health Officer on a continuing basis. Changes will be based on science and in COVID-19 infection rates within our county.