

# GPS HEALTH OFFICES

## UPDATES AND COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

### NURSING OFFICE PROCEDURE CHANGES

The nurse's office will be used to continue to take care of children. We will have social distancing in both rooms and continued cleaning as directed.

To help diminish the number of students entering the nurse's offices, **Gretna Public Schools will no longer be issuing Tylenol, ibuprofen, or cough drops.** If your child needs Tylenol or ibuprofen at school, we will require a parent and/or Dr. note in order to give this medicine.

### SCREENING/TESTING FOR COVID-19

- It is more important than ever that your child comes to school healthy. You know your child better than anyone. We are asking you to do a temperature check every morning and ask your child a few health-related questions. Your child cannot come to school if his/her temperature is above 100.4.
- Staff will be instructed to screen themselves daily before coming to school.
- Please review the listing of symptoms that may require your child to stay home. If positive for any of these symptoms, contacting your Health Care Provider by phone is recommended.

### SYMPTOMS QUESTIONS FOR SCREENING STUDENTS AND STAFF

Does the student or staff member have a fever of 100.4 or above and/or one or more of the following symptoms: a new cough, new onset of shortness of breath, or new loss of taste or smell?

**If you answered yes to the above, please do the following:**

1. Student and/or staff should be sent home as soon as possible.
2. Require the symptomatic person to wear a cloth or surgical mask while waiting, if tolerable.

## **IF YOUR STUDENT DOES HAVE SYMPTOMS - NEXT STEPS**

**Call 911 with the following symptoms:**

- Constant pain and pressure
- Severe difficulty breathing
- Severe shortness of breath
- Severe constant dizziness or lightheadedness
- Slurred Speech
- Extreme difficulty waking up

**Call your child's health care provider to ask about your child's symptoms and if testing is necessary**

- [Children's Hospital information](#) to get testing for your child
- Children's Hospital 8200 Dodge St. Omaha is only testing children with severe symptoms
- Children's Hospital [Web Site](#) for more information
- Call Children's **COVID-19 helpline 402-955-3200** for assistance
- CHI [has a link](#) to their COVID-19 helpline
- One World Community Health Center is only doing testing on their current patients. 4910 S. 30th Street Omaha, NE. 68107 Phone (402)734-4110
- Charles Drew Health Center 2915 Grant St. Omaha, NE 68111 Phone 402-451-3553
- For test locations visit <https://www.sarpycasshealthdepartment.org/covid-19-testing-locations>

## **VOLUNTEERS AND DELIVERY PERSONNEL**

Masks are highly recommended when entering our buildings.

## **SCHOOL RESPONSE TO EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL OR SELF-MONITOR**

As soon as the school becomes aware of a student or staff member who has tested positive for COVID-19, the school will be in contact with local health officials; the health officials will determine which students and staff may have been exposed to the positive case in question.

**Health officials will inform identified staff members and parents of possible exposure and provide public health recommendations. Notification of students in the class, school, team,**

and or district will be based on the severity of exposure and directive of health officials.

### **FULLY VACCINATED/UNVACCINATED PROTOCOLS**

As of today, it is reasonable to expect the following if a positive COVID-19 exposure occurs at school: Fully vaccinated, masked, or students/staff who have been infected in the past 90 days and are asymptomatic will be advised to monitor for signs and symptoms.

Students or staff that are unvaccinated, unmasked, or have not had a recent infection (within 90 days) will be provided with targeted public health recommendations based on the situation.

Finally, the custodial staff will be informed of any confirmed positive cases so that all desks, lockers, and workspaces of the positive individual are thoroughly disinfected.

## **EXCLUSION AND RETURN**

Given the nature of the pandemic, school personnel may be making additional medical inquiries of students -more than they otherwise would. Please note that federal law typically limits the type of medical inquiries that can be made, but given the nature of the pandemic more leeway has been given by federal agencies in this circumstance.

If a parent/guardian informs the school that a student is ill, the school may ask the parent whether the student is exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19 and provide instruction based on the current state and local health recommendations for the student's school attendance. The student's attendance will be coded accordingly.

\*\*Any student who is excluded from school due to exclusion, quarantine, or isolation will be coded as such for attendance.

## **EXPANDED EXCLUSION CRITERIA**

The school may expand student school health exclusion criteria based on current state and local guidelines to include symptoms of COVID-19 in order to prevent the spread in the school community.

- If any student is displaying COVID-19 symptoms in the school setting, he/she will be directed to the school health office for screening and may be excluded based on the screening outcome if there is reason to believe that the person may be ill with COVID-19 or suspected of having been in close contact with a person having COVID-19.
- Students will be directed to an isolation area away from other students until the parent/guardian picks up the student.
- Health office staff will notify parents/guardians.
- Parents/guardians may be directed to contact their healthcare provider and/or obtain appropriate COVID-19 testing.
- School nurses will initiate notification of county health officials and school administration for any positive cases of COVID-19.

- Gretna Public Schools follows recommendations made by the Sarpy/Cass Health Department.
- EMS will be called if symptoms are assessed/observed to be urgent in nature.

## RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER EXCLUSION

Once a student is excluded from the school environment, he/she may return based on the current recommendations of the Sarpy/Cass Health Department. Currently, those guidelines [can be found here](#).

## TESTED FOR COVID-19 (WITH SYMPTOMS)

Persons who experienced symptoms and have been tested for COVID-19 and are found to be **positive** may return to school if the following three conditions are met:

- Ten (10) calendar days have passed since your symptoms first appeared; **AND**
- They have not had a fever for at least 24 hours (no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers); **AND**
- other symptoms have improved.

Persons who experienced symptoms and have been tested-for COVID-19 and are found to be **negative** may return to school if the following conditions are met:

- They no longer have a fever (without the use medicine that reduces fevers); **AND**
- Other symptoms have improved **AND**
- The school has medical documentation of the negative result.

## TESTED FOR COVID-19 (WITH NO SYMPTOMS)

Persons who have **not had symptoms but test positive** for COVID- 19 may return to school when the following three conditions are met:

- Ten (10) calendar days have passed since the positive test was done; **AND**
- the individual remained symptom free throughout the ten days.

\*If symptoms present, follow guidance listed in TESTED FOR COVID-19 (WITH SYMPTOMS) section.

## UNTESTED FOR COVID-19 (WITH SYMPTOMS)

Persons who have not received a test proving or disproving the presence of COVID-19 but experience symptoms may return if the following three conditions are met:

- Ten (10) calendar days have passed since your symptoms first appeared: **AND**
- They have not had a fever for at least 24 hours (no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers): **AND**
- Other symptoms have improved

**OR**

Students may also return if they are approved to do so in writing by the student's health care provider.

## **SIBLINGS OR OTHER STUDENTS IN THE HOUSEHOLD**

If a student is excluded from school due to ONE of these five COVID-19 symptoms: fever 100.4 or higher, new cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new loss of taste, or new loss of smell, siblings and/or other students or staff members living in the same household **NO LONGER NEED** to be excluded from school or asked to self-isolate if they are symptom free. If the COVID-19 symptom student is confirmed positive, all sibling and family members should self-monitor for fever or other symptom development for 14 days. If symptoms occur within that 14 day self-monitoring period, siblings and family members should follow isolation guidance information. Currently, those guidelines [can be found here](#).

## **INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL**

If a student or employee has recently traveled internationally, the school may exclude the student or employee based on State or Federal guidance regarding international travel.

## **LINKS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

[COVID-19 Fact Sheet](#)

[Coping with Stress and Anxiety during a pandemic from CDC](#)

[Options to Discontinue Quarantine Frequently Asked Questions](#)