



GOTHENBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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August 1st, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

With an increase in COVID-19 cases both nationally and regionally, we felt it was pertinent to remind families of the importance of monitoring your children for symptoms of COVID-19. COVID-19 is present in our community and together, we must be diligent in monitoring for symptoms and masking when appropriate.

Symptoms that may indicate a COVID-19 infection include a new and persistent cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or loss of taste and smell. Additional symptoms to monitor for include a fever of more than $>100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$, chills, cold/shivering, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or GI symptoms. Any of these are indicators that your child needs further monitoring before returning to school.

The bottom line is that if your child is not feeling well we encourage you to keep them home until they are without symptoms and no longer have a fever for 24 hours without fever reducing medication. Additional guidance is provided on the back of this letter.

We understand that there is nothing easy about dealing with COVID. As a community, we must work together to reduce the spread and allow our students to attend school in person. We know the impact that these situations have on our families, students, and staff and thank you in advance for helping to protect our Swede community.

We are all in this together. Thank you for your patience and understanding of the changes that dealing with this pandemic brings. We are committed to delivering quality learning opportunities to all of our students at Gothenburg Public Schools. With your help, we can continue to make this a reality.

Sincerely,

Superintendent
Gothenburg Public Schools



EXCLUSION AND RE-ADMITTANCE TO SCHOOL

The following screening criteria is based on current research. Because people with COVID-19 report a wide range of symptoms, ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness, the following criteria will assist schools and families in determining when it is safe to return to school after illness.

The bottom line: if you are sick, please stay home.

EXCLUSION AND RE-ADMITTANCE PROTOCOL

Students with one of these symptoms:

Fever (>100.4°F), new and persistent cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell.

OR

Students with two of these symptoms:

Chills, cold/shivering, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea.



Action:

Students and staff with these symptoms should be immediately isolated in the designated area and sent home as soon as possible. Require the symptomatic person to wear a mask while waiting, if tolerable.

RE-ADMITTANCE TO SCHOOL

Symptomatic students/staff testing positive for COVID-19



Exclude:

- for at least five (5) days

AND

- until the student/staff can return with no symptoms, and without the use of fever-reducing medication for 24 hours.

Symptomatic students/staff NOT tested or testing negative for COVID-19



Exclude:

- until the student/staff can return with no symptoms, and without the use of fever-reducing medication for 24 hours.

- A negative COVID-19 test is not required for a student/staff member to return to school.
- A positive COVID-19 person does not need a repeat COVID-19 test or doctor's note to return to school.
- If a parent would like additional information about the CDC's recommended guidelines reflective of vaccination status, please navigate to: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>

