

Return to Learn

Masking Procedures
For Grades K-5
January 4, 2021

In an effort to keep our students in school, Cassville R-V, in cooperation with the Barry County Health Department, has a student masking requirement. This was established to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus and make reasonable best efforts to minimize risk. The new mask requirement would allow students to remain in school if they come into contact with a positive case who has been masked.

With these items in mind the following is required:

- 1.) When students move, they mask. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Entering the school building
 - b. Traveling to lunch, bus; recess, special class, etc.
 - c. Traveling that takes them beyond the four walls of the classroom
 - d. During class time when social distancing is not easily achieved, for example, during guided reading groups

- 2.) Parents who wish to have their child masked at all times need to contact their child's teacher and we will do our best to make sure their child adheres to the parents' expectations.

Please note that if parents choose to follow recommendation two (2.) then their child will *not* be quarantined out of school due to a close contact with a positive case who has been masked. Parents who choose recommendation one (1.) will be running the risk that their child *will* be quarantined out of school if he/she is in close contact with a positive case *even if the positive case has been masked*. Students who cannot provide their own mask will be given one from the office

Prior to the masking expectation, students who came into close contact with a positive Covid-19 case were quarantined out of school for a minimum of 14 days. Those students who were quarantined received instruction through a virtual platform (Google Classroom or SeeSaw) or through a traditional approach (paper/pen). Although this instruction is much more in-depth than what was provided last spring, nothing can fully replace seated instruction and the social interaction that seated learning provides.

Wear a mask. Stay in school.



COVID-19 School Scenarios

with no documented transmission in the classroom setting

EVERYONE MASKED

When a masked person tests positive and those exposed are wearing masks

COVID +

Close Contacts



ISOLATE

SELF-MONITOR
NO QUARANTINE

CLOSE CONTACTS MASKED

When an unmasked person tests positive and those exposed are wearing masks

COVID +

Close Contacts



ISOLATE

QUARANTINE

CLOSE CONTACT:

Someone who was within 6 feet of a person diagnosed with COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more throughout a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection).

SELF-MONITOR:

Perform a self-check or be monitored daily for symptoms of COVID-19 over a 14-day period. Contact your health care provider with questions about symptoms.

QUARANTINE:

The practice of separating individuals who have had close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 to determine whether they develop symptoms or test positive for the disease.

ISOLATION:

The practice of separating people diagnosed with COVID-19 from others who are not sick to prevent further exposures and/or spread of the disease.

CLOSE CONTACTS UNMASKED

When a masked person tests positive and those exposed are not wearing masks

COVID +

Close Contacts



ISOLATE

SELF-MONITOR
NO QUARANTINE

QUARANTINE

NO ONE MASKED

When an unmasked person tests positive and those exposed are not wearing masks

COVID +

Close Contacts



ISOLATE

QUARANTINE



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65 Main, PO Box 207
Cassville, MO 65625
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www.barrycountyhealth.com

Modified Quarantine within the School Setting

In light of growing evidence that suggests the low risk of COVID-19 transmission among children, as well as guidance from state authorities, the Barry County Health Department will allow strict modified quarantine procedures in K-12 schools under limited circumstances. This means in some circumstances, children may continue to go to school during their quarantine period, despite being identified as a close contact to someone with COVID-19.

School districts that choose to adopt these guidelines may implement the new policies immediately. It will be up to school districts to determine whether they will change their processes, and if so, how to implement those changes. Schools may adopt stricter guidelines, if they choose.

Strict modified quarantine will only be permitted among children in schools where a masking mandate has been adopted by the school board. Additionally, this will exclusively extend to the classroom only—not to outside activities or other circumstances.

There are several conditions that must be met for students to be eligible for modified quarantine:

- Schools must adopt and enforce a masking mandate for everyone without a medical exemption.
- Masks must be worn at all times. Face shields DO NOT count as a mask. Form fitting masks and gaiters must have two (2) layers of protection.
- School environment must have significant mitigation strategies in place. Classrooms must be designed to limit spread and maximize physical distancing. Increased hand hygiene activities must also be in place.
- Modified quarantine will only apply to children in the school setting where both the infected individual and the close contact were masked at the time of contact.
- A procedure for screening for COVID-19 and immediate isolation of anyone with symptoms must be in place.

Public health makes life better.

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer: Services provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.



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- Students in classrooms with more than one positive case linked to classroom spread are NOT eligible for modified quarantine, and standard quarantine practices will be used until there is a minimum of 14 days without additional cases. The Barry County Health Department should be consulted in making this decision.

When an individual is identified as a positive COVID-19 case, close contacts will be identified. This includes anyone who has been within six (6) feet for a cumulative 15 minutes or more within a 24-hour period during the infectious period. When the above criteria are met, modified quarantine may be used.

Modified quarantine allows for a student to continue to attend school. The following must occur for identified direct contacts:

- This modified quarantine only creates an exception for attendance at school. The student must still quarantine at home from other activities. Student may not leave their home for school associated sports, extracurricular activities, or any other activities or places outside of the school setting.
- Mask must be worn at all times, except while eating or drinking.
- If mask is removed, the student must be a minimum of six (6) feet from others.
- Student cannot participate in any activity in which a mask cannot be worn.
- School will monitor for symptoms daily

If the student develops any symptoms of COVID-19, they should be immediately isolated and sent home. Testing for COVID-19 may be recommended.

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