



Dakota Community Unit School District 201

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Dear parents and guardians,

We are pleased to share that the isolation and quarantine period for students and staff members sick with COVID-19 or considered a close contact has been **reduced to five days**.

Today, the Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois State Board of Education and Stephenson County Health Department announced that the agencies have adopted CDC guidance for P-12 schools that halves the isolation and quarantine period. The Centers for Disease Control updated its [guidance](#) for P-12 schools on January 6.

As a result, effective immediately, Dakota School District will implement the updated guidance. As soon as possible, we will contact staff, students and families who are currently impacted by a quarantine with a revised return to school plan.

Today's announcement **does not** change the state of Illinois' mask requirement for anyone inside school buildings. The Governor's indoor mask mandate for school is still in effect until further notice.

Staff and students who are currently impacted by a quarantine now have a revised return to school date. Please see the chart below to know when to send your child back to school.

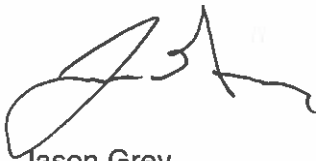
<i>If a student or staff member tested positive or first had symptoms on the following date:</i>	<i>The new return to school/work date is the following:</i>
Monday, 1/3	Monday, 1/10
Tuesday, 1/4	Monday, 1/10
Wednesday, 1/5	Tuesday, 1/11
Thursday, 1/6	Wednesday, 1/12
Friday, 1/7	Thursday, 1/13
<i>*Any date prior to 1/3/2022 may return on Monday, 1/10</i>	<i>**The date above is if a person is fever free for 24 hours and symptoms have improved.</i>

Unvaccinated students and not boosted staff members who are close contacts are now required to quarantine for 5 days. The following is a table with the revised return to school dates.

<i>If an unvaccinated student or not boosted staff member was a close contact on the following:</i>	<i>The new return to school/work date is the following:</i>
Monday, 1/3	Monday, 1/10
Tuesday, 1/4	Monday, 1/10
Wednesday, 1/5	Tuesday, 1/11
Thursday, 1/6	Wednesday, 1/12
Friday, 1/7	Thursday, 1/13
<i>*Any date prior to 1/3/2022 may return on Monday, 1/10</i>	<i>**Test on day 5 if possible</i>

You can find additional information directly on the CDC website.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and teachers. It's been an incredibly difficult year, but we will continue to push forward together.



Jason Grey
Superintendent of Dakota CUSD #201