

Bainville Public School Protocols if a Student or Staff Tests Positive for COVID-10

Informed by current information on CDC and by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and Roosevelt County Health Department (RCHD) as of 8/4/2020 PLEASE NOTE: THESE PROTOCOLS ARE CONTINUALLY CHANGING. AND THE LATEST ADVICE FROM CDC AND ROOSEVELT COUNTY HEALTH WILL BE FOLLOWED.

What if a student or school staff member exhibits symptoms of COVID-10?

Screening on section 1 and section 2 than OUT. Only on section 1 school policy

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

The current symptoms include:

- Fever (100.4 F or higher), chills, or shaking chills
- Cough (not due to other known cause, such as a chronic cough)
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Headache *when in combination with other symptoms*
- Muscle aches or body aches
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Fatigue, when in combination with other symptoms
- Nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes, such as allergies) *when in combination with other symptoms.*

Where can my child get tested?

Check with your local medical provider if they meet the criteria on the testing

Will COVID-19 testing be offered in schools?

There is no plans to do so to my knowledge at this time. If that changes, the district will communicate that to families.

If a student is tested, and the results come back negative for COVID-19, when can they return to school?

The student can return to school once they are asymptomatic for at least 24 hours unless quarantined by screen criteria.

What if a student tests positive?

Remain home. Notify the school of the results, either the Roosevelt County Health Department. "Most people who have relatively mild illness will need to stay in self-isolation for at least 10 days and until at least 3 days have passed with no fever and improvement in other symptoms," is the suggested guidance at this time. This may change, so follow the most up-to-date information from the Roosevelt County Health Department (RCHD). As of 7/4/20, most individuals are not being retested for a negative result. Guidance may vary depending on the severity of the symptoms.

What if my child is symptomatic but I cannot get them tested?

First see the Screening Guide. Call health care provider for direction and get tested if advised. Local Health Department should have information, and guidance.

What action will occur if a student exhibits symptoms on the school bus?

Education officials emphasize *that families are “the most important first line of defense for monitoring symptoms.”* Students are expected to stay home if they exhibit symptoms of COVID-19.

Bus drivers and monitors will be trained on watching for possible symptomatic students. If a student shows symptoms of being sick while getting on the bus, state education officials said they should not be allowed to board and their caregiver should take them home. That protocol assumes a parent or guardian is waiting at the bus stop with the student.

If a student exhibits symptoms on the bus, they must keep their mask on and distance from other students. The bus driver will place a call to the school regarding the possibly symptomatic child.

Upon arrival, school personnel will evaluate the student. If they exhibit symptoms, they will be placed in the designated waiting area to be picked up by their parent or guardian.

What if a student is symptomatic at school?

The student will be evaluated by school personnel for symptoms. If they exhibit symptoms, they will be placed in the designated waiting area to be picked up by their parent or guardian. If the parent is concerned they should contact health care provider

What if a staffer is symptomatic at school?

If they develop symptoms during the day they see school personnel to be evaluated by the Screening tool. If they don't meet a close contact/potential exposure, they must follow the school's standard protocols for being excused due to illness. If Screening tool shows close contact/potential exposure the staffer will be sent home for further evaluation by medical professional. Call Ifirst.

If their test returns negative, they must stay home until they are asymptomatic for 24 hours unless they have been identified as a close contact /or potential exposure COVID-19 case.

If their test returns positive, they must remain at home. Notify the school of the results, the Roosevelt County Health Department (RCHD) and people with whom the staffer has been in close contact with recently. They may return to work following the guidance of the RCHD.

A family member or another person my child was in close contact with tested positive. What should I do?

If the child was at home when their parent or guardian learned of the possible exposure, they should be kept at home. Please contact the RCHD.

The student should be placed in the assigned waiting area until their caregiver or parent take them home. Follow the guidance of family health care provider and the RCHD.

How will a school respond to a student or staff member testing positive for COVID-19?

The school will determine when the last time the student or staffer was on school grounds two days prior to the onset of symptoms - or testing if they were asymptomatic. The school must close off areas visited by the positive student or staffer so they can be cleaned and disinfected prior to reopening. If the student or staffer traveled on the school bus, it must be disinfected as well.

For elementary school: Communication will be sent to other families in the student's class to notify them of a positive test without naming the person. Those who may have gotten within six feet of the student are staff will be urged to get self-quarantine and get tested four to five days after their last exposure to the person. If they choose not to get tested, they must remain home for 14 days or follow the latest RCHD guidance.

For middle and high school students: As students in upper grades shift between classrooms more, the school will contact staffers and families of students in classes throughout the student's scheduled day.

Students who were within six feet of the individual in class or on the school bus will be urged to self-quarantine and get tested four to five days after their last exposure to the person. If they choose not to get tested, current guidance says they must remain home for 14 days or follow the latest RCHD guidance.

Multiple students and/or staff members test positive. Will the school close?

"If there is more than one confirmed COVID-19 case (students or staff) in the school at one time, or if there is a series of single cases in a short time span, school leaders and the superintendent will work with the Roosevelt County Health Department to determine if it is likely that there is transmission happening in school.

When there is in-school transmission beyond a single classroom or cohort, school officials may close part of the school or the entire school for several days for an extensive cleaning - likely one to three days - or close the school fully or partially for two weeks to allow for a school-wide quarantine period.

If multiple cases are present in multiple schools, district officials must consult with the Roosevelt County Health Department in determining if there will be a district-wide closure for several days or weeks.

If a school decides to close, it will immediately transition to off-site learning.

My community is seeing a growing number of COVID-19 cases. Will the schools close?

In the case of a significant municipal outbreak, as determined by the Roosevelt County Health Department or DPHHS, the superintendent and school leaders must consult the Roosevelt County Health Department to determine whether it is appropriate to close a specific school, schools, or an entire district is the current guidance.