

Good Evening,

First, I want to apologize for the delay of this message and not letting you all know earlier. Starting Monday, September 13th, we will be implementing new guidelines for quarantine time. This is due to stakeholders wanting to cut back on loss of classroom instruction and align our policies with surrounding districts. We have found that most students were staying out the full 14 days and not testing for early return. The new guidelines will still give 2 options for the return of quarantined students. The first option is that a student can test on day 5 of quarantine (no sooner) and return on day 8 with a negative test result. If the student does not test, the student will be required to quarantine the full 10 days and return on day 11. This still follows CDC/DHEC guidance, but it is the shortened quarantine guidance that has been provided to school districts. We will still encourage wearing face masks and social distancing while implementing the shortened quarantine.

The nursing staff will be monitoring very closely the number of positive cases. If we notice an increase in the positive cases and/or spread, or if our quarantine numbers start to increase, we will return to the previous guidelines that we have been implementing up to this point in the school year.

We are in the process of informing parents of the 3 different ways to get students tested. If parents have that preference, they just have to contact us to help see which way is best for them. The information sheet for parents is scheduled to be pushed out this weekend.

The shortened quarantine will be offered to students who are currently on quarantine based on individual situations. Parents/guardians will need to reach out to the district nursing staff for more information and/or return date changes.

Thank you for your support of the nursing staff in our district! As always, please contact me with any questions/concerns you may have.

Here is a link to answered Frequently Asked Questions for your reference as well:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XbVM2nEDnl\\_8rt8RzGx0-fb-s4C-RuN-/edit?usp=sharing&oid=109311310402115794049&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XbVM2nEDnl_8rt8RzGx0-fb-s4C-RuN-/edit?usp=sharing&oid=109311310402115794049&rtpof=true&sd=true)

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