



25 August 2022

Dear Hopewell Families,

Last week, the Pennsylvania Department of Health updated its COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Guidance (PAHAN-656). Hopewell Area School District will be adopting these updated guidelines immediately in regards to students and staff members who test positive for COVID-19 or have been identified as a close contact. The new guidelines are as follows:

If you test positive for COVID (vaccinated or unvaccinated):

- Isolation period is 5 days. The five day period begins from symptom onset or positive test result, whichever comes first. Symptom onset/positive result is day 0. If the student or staff member is **asymptomatic, symptoms are mild or have been resolved, and fever free without medication for 24 hours**, students/staff can return to school on day 6 while wearing a facial covering through day 10. If symptoms remain, isolation should continue.

If you are identified as a close contact (vaccinated or unvaccinated):

- Quarantine is no longer required.
- It is recommended that you wear a high quality mask for 10 days after the initial exposure.
- Should watch for symptoms to develop for 10 days after the exposure. Symptoms include fever, cough, shortness of breath. If these symptoms develop you should immediately isolate and follow up with your healthcare provider.

The district appreciates your ongoing support of our health and safety efforts.

With Viking Pride-

Hopewell Area School District Administration and Health Services Department