



1/26/2021

To: L-H Families

Fr: Matt Carlin

Re: Reminder - Importance of Informing School Regarding Contacts from Outside Organizations

Dear L-H Families:

As you know, we have had a great deal of success navigating the challenges and nuances of the current school year, which has helped to ensure we can continue to stay open and provide the best options not only for your children, but for our school community as a whole.

One aspect of our health and safety protocols that I would like to revisit/remind you about is the importance of notifying the school when you have received communications from outside organizations regarding any potential exposure to COVID 19. This includes potential close contact notification and even communications that outline precautionary measures. In short, **we need to be in the loop**, to ensure we can help support you with the interpretation of such communications, review how they merge with our protocols and needs, and establish any follow up measures. Accordingly, I would like to outline the following steps that need to be taken in instances where notification from an outside organization has been received. They are as follows:

Process:

- ❑ **Immediate notification to the principal and nurse of any confirmed exposure, possible exposure, or positive COVID test is the most important thing.**
- ❑ When such notification is received, families should err on the side of caution, and keep the student home, the school will follow up with the family. This way the nurses can follow up with the Board of Health in order to determine if the exposure requires a 14 day quarantine.
- ❑ Families should also report the absence via the District absence portal: <https://sites.google.com/summit.k12.nj.us/virtualhealthoffice/reporting>
- ❑ If the student is deemed a true close contact to a COVID positive individual, the school nurses then work with the Board of Health to determine the student's return to school date.

Timetables:

- ❑ A close contact quarantine is 14 days
- ❑ The current recommendation is to test 5 days after exposure, however, **regardless of test result**, a 14 day quarantine is still required.
- ❑ A negative test is not required to return to school following a close contact quarantine or isolation period.
- ❑ A positive COVID diagnosis requires a full 10 day isolation period, and as above, a negative test is not required to return to school.

In the event you have received any such communications, please be sure to contact our school nurse, Mrs. Diakos via kdiakos@summit.k12.nj.us and please copy me as well mcarlin@summit.k12.nj.us. It is with great appreciation that the school community has pulled together to rise to the challenges of this school year. Observing continued communication,

timely notification and collaboration will most certainly reinforce our home/school partnership, but also serve to nurture the health and wellbeing of our entire school community: students, teachers and parents alike.

With Appreciation,

Matt

