



NORTH PANOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Office #1

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Cedric Richardson, Superintendent

“Pursuing Excellence for All”

DISTRICT COMMUNIQUE

August 13, 2021

Key points:

- We encourage all families to consider getting vaccinated. Children who are 12 years old or older are eligible to be vaccinated.
- Masks are required for all – students, staff, visitors, or other individuals entering into all NPSD buildings.
- To communicate with the district and/or express concerns or questions, please contact the school principal or district office rather than resorting to FaceBook or other social media platforms.
- Please refrain from spreading misinformation on social media. At no time is it acceptable to speak on another person’s personal information (proven or otherwise) on the internet without their permission.

How can everybody help?

All vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals will wear masks. In order to accurately measure the number of cases we have and keep students and staff members safe, we also need to know as soon as possible when a student or staff member has received a positive COVID test. The nurse is the very first person who needs to be notified. During contact tracing, please be assured the identity of the individual will not be revealed to avoid violating HIPPA laws.

When will the need arise to quarantine?

Close contact is considered when a person has been within six feet of an individual with positive results. This contact has to be 15 or more minutes within a 24-hour period.

What is an outbreak?

An outbreak is defined as three or more cases of COVID in a classroom or group (i.e., band or sports teams) within 14 days. If such conditions were met, the district would be required to report this to the Mississippi State Department of Health.

What if my child tests positive? What do I need to do?

Contact the school and speak with the nurse so we can conduct contact tracing. You will need to submit documentation of the positive result, and the child will need to isolate for ten days. The child can return after ten days pending he/she shows no symptoms.

“Leadership, Collaboration, Innovation”

How is the district informing parents?

The nurse will notify the student's parent if they have been identified as being in close contact. If a parent has a concern that they have not been contacted, the parent can call the school nurse to confirm the need to quarantine. Please note that being in the room or school with someone who tests positive does not justify a need to be quarantined according to MSDH recommendations or guidelines.

Weekly updates will be posted with the number of positive cases as well as the number of individuals being quarantined. Visit the district's website by going to www.northpanolaschools.org. Then, click on COVID19 Updates at the top.

For additional information, please see:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- Mississippi State Department of Health
<https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/static/resources/14912.pdf>