

# **NORTH ZULCH ISD UPDATED COVID-19 FAQ FOR THE 2021 - 2022 SCHOOL YEAR**

Updated 8/27/2021

*\*The details of this document are subject to changes as directives are provided by governing authorities and/or health officials or as environmental conditions change.*

## ***When are students required to remain at home?***

- Currently, students are only required to remain at home if they have TESTED POSITIVE for COVID-19.

## ***When can my student return to school?***

- If a student has tested positive for COVID-19, they are required to remain at home until all three of the following return to school criteria have been met:
  - 1) at least one day (24 hours) has passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
  - 2) the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
  - 3) at least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

In the case of an individual that is asymptomatic but has received a positive COVID-19 test result, the individual may not return to the campus until ten days have passed since a positive test.

## ***Someone in my household has tested positive, is my child required to remain home?***

- Currently, any decision to keep a student at home because they are in close contact with a positive individual is strictly up to the discretion of the parent.
- We highly encourage you to decide responsibly and err on the side of caution when it comes to sending your student to campus if they are in close contact.
- The nurse will do temperature checks on students who have been in close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID.
- We strongly encourage students who have been in close contact with COVID positive individuals to wear masks while at school.

### ***How will we be notified of positive cases in the school?***

- There will be a spreadsheet on the website under the COVID tab that lists the total active cases and overall total cases, year to date. This spreadsheet will be updated weekly.
- NZISD will post letters daily to the district website to inform parents of any new test-confirmed cases.

### ***Are masks required?***

- At this time, masks are encouraged, but not required.

### ***If my student tested positive for COVID-19, will asynchronous learning be offered?***

- Asynchronous learning will not be offered. All North Zulch ISD students will receive face-to-face instruction on campus for the 2021-2022 school year.

### ***Will my student be counted absent if they test positive or have to quarantine?***

- Yes, any student who misses school due to a positive COVID test or who is quarantining due to close contact will be marked absent for the days that are missed.
- The 90% attendance rule still applies to the number of absences a student can have and still gain credit for the school year.

### ***What protocols will be in place to help prevent the spread of the virus***

- Students will social distance as much as possible in the classrooms, hallways, and common areas.
- All areas of the campus will be sanitized using a hospital grade disinfectant fogger machine.
- Classrooms will use disinfectant spray and wipes to clean desks and commonly touched areas multiple times throughout the day.
- Bathrooms and water fountains will be cleaned with a disinfectant solution.
- Only the water bottle refill station will be used on water fountains.
- Buses will be fogged daily.

### ***What happens in the case of close contact with a student or staff member at school?***

- There will be daily temperature checks in grade levels where positive cases have been reported.
- Letters will be posted daily to the district website to inform parents of any new test-confirmed cases.
- The school will make close contact calls in the event of a positive case of a bus rider.

### ***Will visitors be allowed on campus?***

- At this time, there will be limited access to visitors on campus.
- Visitors will not be allowed in the classrooms or cafeteria.
- Clubs and extra-curricular organizations will be allowed to hold meetings in the middle gym after school hours.
- If an elementary student has a birthday, parents may drop off treats at the front office. Treats should be in a sealed container.

### ***What protocols will be in place at meal times?***

- Elementary students will be separated by grade levels for meals.
- Elementary students will eat breakfast on the upper deck.
- Elementary students not eating breakfast will go to the HS gym
- Plexiglas dividers will be put on tables.
- Tables will be sanitized between breakfast and lunch groups.
- Jr. High students will report to the HS gym upon arrival.
- Jr. High students will eat breakfast at the end of 1<sup>st</sup> period.
- Secondary students will eat breakfast on the lower deck and on the stage.
- Secondary students will be divided between two lunch periods to reduce the number of students in the cafeteria at one time.