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**Peoria City/County
Health Department**

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: Monday, August 2, 2021

TO: Peoria County Regional Office of Education

FROM: Monica Hendrickson, Public Health Administrator

SUBJECT: Quarantine Determination for Close Contacts related to K-12 COVID-19 Exposure

The Peoria City/County Health Department strongly supports in-person learning for school districts for the 2021-2022 school year with layered COVID-19 prevention strategies that are outlined in the updated [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) guidance for K-12 schools](#) and fully adopted by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). The Peoria City/County Health Department strongly recommends universal masking to begin the 2021-2022 school year.

The health department recognizes that to bring students back to in-person learning requires a safe and healthy way to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19 virus. In Illinois, contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine is required per Part 690 Control of Communicable Disease Code, Subpart I. Further the Communicable Disease Code also requires mandatory reporting of any suspect, confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 to the local health department immediately (within 3 hours).

As communicated in the ISBE School FAQ (<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/ISBE-School-FAQs-20210726.pdf>), the local health department has the final determination on who is to be quarantined and for how long. Therefore, we will be determining if school exposures qualify for any modified quarantine based on the mitigation plans within districts approved by their subsequent Boards of Education. The following determination matrix is for individuals 2 and older, regarding classroom exposure and excludes household exposure. Those vaccinated will be reviewed on an individual basis.

Quarantine Options (see ISBE FAQ for detailed options)	Mitigation Levels (Transmission Level*)				
Option 1: Quarantine at home for 14 calendar days. Date of last exposure is considered day 0.	Recommended Masking (All Levels of Community Transmission)	Required Masking of Unvaccinated Individuals (Moderate and greater)	Universal Masking Policy (All Levels of Community Transmission)		
Option 2: Quarantine for 10 calendar days after the close contact's last exposure to the COVID-19 case.					
Option 3: Quarantine period is for seven calendar days after the last exposure if: No symptoms developed during daily monitoring AND the individual has a negative SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic test (PCR) that was collected within 48 hours of exposure day 7 (starting on day 6 or after).					
Option 4: Test-to-Stay Strategy, as has been documented by CDC, ⁴ if schools test close contacts, as defined above, on days one, three, five, and seven from date of exposure by a PCR or rapid antigen or molecular emergency use authorization (EUA)-approved test, close contacts are permitted to remain in the classroom as long as the results are negative.				Required Masking of Unvaccinated Individuals (Low Community Transmission)	

*Transmission Level is determined at County Level (<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>)

The determination of quarantine options will be based on school board approved plans and communications that are submitted to the Peoria City/County Health Department. In the absence of plans, the Health Department will default to Option 1 for the district.