



## HCPS Health Services Communication Plan

- Each Learning Support Center (LSC) will be staffed with at least one professional school nurse (RN) who will act as the COVID-19 Point Person; school nurses will continue to ensure confidentiality of student health information.
- Continuity of Learning Plan- Student Health Guidelines
  - Parent Acknowledgement Letter
    - Parent/guardian will acknowledge health expectations to participate in the LSC i.e. fabric face coverings/masks, handwashing, social distancing
    - Parents are expected to notify the school as soon as they are made aware that their child has tested positive for the virus that causes COVID-19 or that their child has been exposed to a person who is confirmed to have COVID-19
    - Parent/guardians consent that they will pick up ill students as soon as possible.
- School Nurses will care for ill students throughout the LSC day
  - School Nurses will utilize the MDH “Decision Aid: Exclusion and Return for Laboratory Confirmed COVID-19 Cases and Persons with COVID-19-like Illness in Schools, Child Care Programs, and Youth Camps” to determine the need for quarantine and isolation
  - If a student or school staff member develops symptoms of COVID-19-like illness during the school day, the school nurse will:
    - Safely isolate the person in the designated isolation area and place a surgical mask on the person if they are not wearing a cloth face covering
    - Don the appropriate PPE and conduct an assessment as per HCPS Nurse Practice Guidelines
    - Contact the parent/guardian to have the student picked up from school as soon as possible.
    - Direct ill staff should leave the building as soon as possible
- School Nurses will participate in daily monitoring and surveillance of attendees at the LSC
  - Daily attendance counts
  - Daily monitoring of health suite visits
  - Transmittal of all data to the Office of Health Services and HCHD daily

- Line lists and COVID Tracing tools to monitor symptomatic students
- Communication template/Letters developed with HCHD will be send to cohort/close contacts of students with COVID like illness or + COVID test; letter includes:
  - Symptoms of COVID/ COVID-like illness
  - Direction to seek medical care is symptoms develop
  - Direction to contact health care provider or HCHD communicable disease phone number if student develops symptoms of COVID-19 while under quarantine
  - Date of return to LSC if asymptomatic
  - Provision to continue to access virtual learning at home if well enough to participate
  - Link to Maryland COVID-19 testing sites
- School Nurses will inform Principal and Supervisor of Health Services of all COVID like and + COVID results
- School Nurses will add disaggregated + COVID cases to confidential district data base; this information will be shared with Senior Leadership and the Communications Department as needed
- School Nurses will maintain the confidentiality of all students in the school setting/community
- Collaboration with Harford County Health Department
  - School Nurses will collaborate with Communicable Disease Nurses at the HCHD for all outbreak investigations
    - The school nurse will follow the instructions from the local health department for all matters regarding quarantine, exclusion and return to school for persons with a positive test for COVID-19 and those who had close contact with the with COVID-like illness
    - School nurses will transmit names of close contacts to students with + COVID
    - School nurses will assist with contact tracings as directed by HCHD
    - Response decisions and school closures will be determined by the HCHD
  - School Nurses will direct resource information to families including testing sites, the HCHD and MCHIP

#### Staff Health

- Staff must follow the directive from HR that includes
  - Health/safety expectations including fabric face coverings/masks, handwashing, social distancing
  - All staff are expected to notify the school as soon as they are made aware that they have tested positive for the virus that causes COVID-19

or that they has been exposed to a person who is confirmed to have COVID-19;



## NOTIFICATION OF POSSIBLE COVID 19 EXPOSURE

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent/Guardian of: \_\_\_\_\_

A student in your child's cohort group was sent home with COVID-19 like symptoms today. While we must protect the privacy of the person involved, you are being notified so that you can take appropriate quarantine procedures as directed by the Harford County Health Department.

Symptoms of COVID-19-like illness include a new onset cough or shortness of breath; or at least 2 of the following: fever of 100° F or higher, chills, shivering, muscle pain, sore throat, headache, loss of sense of taste or smell, or gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting or diarrhea).

*Your child may return to the learning center after 14 days have elapsed as long as your child is free of any symptoms. The end of this quarantine period for students without symptoms is:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
The school nurse will notify you by phone if the student in question tests negative for COVID-19 and your child may return to the learning center before the 14-day quarantine is over.

If the student in question receives a positive diagnosis of COVID-19, you will be contacted by the Maryland Department of Health COVID-Link Contact Tracing Call Center or Harford County Health Department for further instructions.

If your child or any member of your family exhibit these symptoms, please contact your health care provider for advice immediately. Symptoms usually appear 2-14 days after exposure.

You should continue to monitor your child's temperature and the above symptoms. If you do not have a health care provider or require COVID -19 testing, please consult the Harford County Health Department at 410-612-1774 or visit <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/symptoms-testing>.

HCPS will continue to follow all COVID-related safety procedures. Our greatest priority is the safety of our students, staff and community members.

Your child may still access the virtual classroom if they remain well enough to engage in learning while under quarantine.

Thank you for your compliance in keeping our community healthy.

Sean W. Bulson, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Schools

Russell Moy, MPH, MD  
Health Officer