



AMADOR COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION
AMADOR COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Amador County Families and Community:

As soon as we put out the update yesterday, additional changes came down from CDC, CDPH, and Cal OSHA. We have spent time with our JPA (insurance carrier) and Amador County Public Health late yesterday and again today to come up with the updated message below. All changes are in red font for your convenience.

We know there has been a lot of confusion with all of the changes that came down last Thursday, December 30 from CDPH, as well as what is reported in the news daily, on the protocols for COVID-19 quarantine and isolation. We have been working closely with our JPA (insurance carrier) and Amador County Public Health to better understand the updated requirements, and hope the following message helps to clarify things for everyone. Please note that everything under the isolation and quarantine sections comes from the formal Health Order provided by the State Public Health Officer, and carries the weight of law for public schools to follow. The following are current guidelines for testing, isolation, and quarantine:

Testing

- Effective Monday, January 10, 2022 all employees (vaccinated and unvaccinated) will be required to have a negative COVID test weekly. This will include all District Office employees and Board members when attending in person. District Office staff will be required to test twice weekly if there is ample test kit availability.
- With the increase of positive cases we are currently seeing at school sites, principals may reach out to families for consent to do screening testing with students if particular schools have an increased positive student case rate. When we see multiple positive cases in classrooms, we may require all students to test in that classroom in order to remain in the classroom.

Isolation (for people who have tested positive for COVID-19)

- All students and staff who test positive regardless of their vaccination status, are eligible for release from isolation after day 5 with a negative antigen test result done at the school on or after day 5, or by providing official results from another testing service or doctor to the school/district. Students or staff coming to school to test should be symptom free and may then return to school on day 6.

Quarantine (for people who are close contacts** of someone who tested positive for COVID-19)

*** A close contact for this document will be defined as the following: Anyone within six (6) feet of a person who has tested positive for a cumulative total of fifteen (15) minutes in a 24 hour period.*

- A vaccinated student who is determined to be a close contact of a person who has tested positive is not required to quarantine, as long as they remain symptom free.
- An unvaccinated student must quarantine for 10 days if they choose not to test, or can be released early from quarantine after day 7 with a negative antigen test result performed at the school on or after day 5 of quarantine or by providing official results from another testing service or doctor to the school/district. If a student in quarantine without symptoms tests negative on day 5 or later, they may return to school on day 8.
- **Students who live in a household where someone has tested positive for COVID-19, who are up to date with their vaccine, and who do not have symptoms, do not need to be quarantined. Students who are not vaccinated must be excluded from school. These students can get a PCR test for COVID-19 on or after day 10 since their first exposure to the positive individual. If the test is negative and they remain without symptoms, quarantine can end after Day 14.**

As we have stated since August, 2021, we have two goals: (1) To keep all students, staff and our general community safe, and (2) To keep our doors open for student learning. We will get through this wave of increase and hopefully be nearing an endemic and begin to move out of a pandemic.

We want to remind you that COVID testing is available at every school campus, free of charge. With the Omicron variant widely circulating in Amador County, our message is, "When in doubt, get a test."

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we continue to adapt to this ever-changing COVID landscape.

Sincerely,



Torie F. Gibson, Ed.D.
Superintendent, ACOE & ACUSD