

# Williamsville-Sherman #CUSD15



## 2020-2021 Covid-19 Health Office School Safety Plan

*"IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A BULLET AND A BEE BEE!"*

## **Introduction**

The purpose of this document is to outline the Williamsville-Sherman #CUSD15 health office return to school guidelines and re-opening of the schools after the COVID-19 pandemic. Our overall goal with this guidance plan is to provide practical advice on how to most safely return kids to in-person school. **The advice provided in these pages will change in time, as guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), Sangamon County Department of Public Health (SCDPH), and Center For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) changes and will be updated as new evidence becomes available.**

We know there will be questions that are not addressed in this document as we are in uncharted territory. We will continue to be available to answer questions as they arise and provide counsel to parents and students.

All the requirements set for in this document are meant to provide children, teachers, and staff with an environment that promotes safe practices for being in the classroom, moving about the school during activities, and limiting the amount of COVID-19 exposures.

Individuals contributing to the development of this plan are the following:

- Tip Reedy - Superintendent
- Jayme Tierney - RN, BSN
  - Sherman Elementary School Nurse
- Jennie Wagoner - RN, BSN
  - Williamsville Middle School, Junior High, & High School Nurse

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## **Section 1: Entering schools and Screening**

- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in order to ensure a safe and healthy environment for our school community, Joint Guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health requires that every student undergo a daily symptom screening prior to utilizing School District transportation or entering any School District building. Parents/Guardians will be conducting this daily symptom screening prior to their student departing for school and reporting consistent with the parameters outlined below.
- Parents will self-certify children who are bus riders every morning and place a sticker on their student(s) that is visible for the bus driver to see.
- We recommend parent/guardian drop off as much as possible.
- There will be specific locations for drop-offs and school staff will be waiting to take temperatures of student(s) prior to entering school buildings daily.
  - IDPH defines a temperature to be 100.4 degrees F (or greater). If the initial temperature is elevated, school staff will ask the parent/guardian to pull over to the side and a repeat temperature will be taken 10 min later. If a temp is noted, parents/guardians will be required to take the student home, along with all other siblings in the vehicle until cleared to return to school.
- Student(s) who are cleared will be directed to a specific door for entrance after initial screening is done.
- We understand students may walk/ride bikes to school and these student(s) will be directed to the quarantine room if they have any possible COVID-19 symptoms. The student(s) will then be evaluated by the school nurse.
- The Illinois Department of Public Health suggests the following symptoms are potentially COVID-19 symptoms and should apply to anyone attending or working in school (i.e. adults and children in schools):
  - Temperature of 100.4 F (or greater)
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle and body aches
  - Headache
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Cough (that is not documented as asthma or allergies)
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - New lost of taste or smell
  - Nausea and/or vomiting
  - Diarrhea

- Abdominal pain
  - Any other COVID-19 symptoms identified by the CDC or IDPH
- If a student is experiencing any **ONE** of the above symptoms at the time of the daily screening, the parent/guardian will notify the school of their student's absence by calling the attendance line or school nurse and indicating the above symptoms that their student is experiencing. In the event district staff contacts the parent/guardian to gather additional information related to the results of their student's daily screening, the parent/guardian will provide the necessary information as requested.
    - Sherman Elementary School: Mrs. Jayme Tierney ([tierney@wvusd15.org](mailto:tierney@wvusd15.org))
    - Williamsville Middle School, Junior High, and High School:
    - Mrs. Jennie Wagoner ([wagoner@wvusd15.org](mailto:wagoner@wvusd15.org))
  - If a child has any of the **high risk symptoms** (fever, cough, shortness of breath or loss of taste and/or smell or has two or more of the other symptoms) the child should be seen by his or her health care provider. These children should be tested for COVID-19, if recommended. Please contact your child's health care provider for further guidance or call the Sangamon County Department of Public Health at (217)-321-2606.
  - If a child has one or more of the **lower risk symptoms** (sore throat, headache, muscle aches, congestion, or gastrointestinal symptoms) then he or she should be kept home for observation for other symptoms. Please contact your child(ren)'s health care provider for further guidance or call the Sangamon County Department of Public Health at (217)-321-2606.
  - When one member of a household is being evaluated for COVID-19, the rest of the household must be quarantined until an alternative diagnosis is made and a negative result is received.
  - If a student presents to the nursing office with COVID-19 symptoms, the student and sibling(s) will be sent home.
    - *Isolation/Quarantine and return to school rules following illness are found in Section 2.*

## **Section 2: When to return to school**

- It is recommended that medically fragile and immunocompromised students consult their medical provider prior to attending school.

- **COVID-19 Test results pending:** A student that has been tested for COVID-19 should not return to school until notified of their results.
- **COVID-19 test positive:** A student who tests positive for COVID-19 will be required to quarantine at home per the Sangamon County Department of Public Health guidelines. A parent/guardian should notify the school nurse as soon as possible if their child tests positive, so that contact tracing can be initiated.
  - If the student is asymptomatic, they are required to stay home at least 10 days from the date of the first positive test.
  - If the student is symptomatic, they are required to quarantine for 14 days after the onset of symptoms and 24 hours with no fever (without taking fever reducing medications) and improvement of other symptoms--**whichever is longer**. A release letter will be required from the child's physician or the health department to return to school.
- **Covid 19- test negative:** A student that tests negative for COVID-19 may return to school once he or she has been fever free for 24 hours, without taking fever reducing medications (i.e. Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Advil, etc.) and/or have been 24 hours without vomiting and/or diarrhea.
  - A physician's note documenting the alternative diagnosis and a negative test result are required to return to school.
- **Not tested for COVID-19:** If anyone of the following symptoms are present:
  - Fever greater than or equal to 100.4, fatigue, body aches, headache, shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, new loss of sense of taste or smell, nausea vomiting, diarrhea, and/or abdominal pain.
  - The student should stay home for at least 14 days from onset of symptoms and 24 hours with no fever (without fever reducing medications and improvement of other symptoms--**whichever is longer**). Testing for COVID-19 is recommended by the IDPH with any of these symptoms.
- **Close contact of COVID-19 Positive Individual:** If a student is considered to be a close contact of an individual that has tested positive for COVID-19, then they will be required to quarantine at home and may not attend school at least 14 days from the last contact with the individual or released by the Sangamon County Health Dept. A release letter is not required for the student to return if they remained asymptomatic during quarantine.

- *For COVID-19, the CDC defines a “close contact” as “any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes throughout the day **WITH OR WITHOUT A MASK** starting from 2 days before illness onset (or for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.”*
- **Other diagnosis (NOT COVID):** A student who is diagnosed with an alternate clinical diagnosis or laboratory confirmed condition (i.e. strep throat, flu) should follow provider directions/treatment and return to school per policies and Illinois Department of Public Health guidelines. A physician’s note documenting alternative diagnosis and a negative COVID-19 test are required to return to school.
- **Check in procedure upon return to school:** Students and staff returning from an illness from COVID-19 should check in with the school nurse following isolation/quarantine. Teachers or office staff will notify the school nurse as soon as the student is present. Student’s temperature will be checked and symptoms evaluated to determine if criteria for discontinuation of isolation/quarantine have been met prior to returning to class.

### **Section 3: Employee COVID-19 Self-certification and Verification**

- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in order to ensure a safe and healthy environment for our school and community, the June 23, 2020 Transition Joint Guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health requires that every employee undergo a daily symptom screening prior to utilizing School District Transportation (i.e. bus drivers, bus aides/monitors, etc) or entering and School District building. Employees will conduct this daily symptoms screening each morning prior to their arrival of each building.
- Employees will conduct a daily symptom screening to determine if they have any of the following COVID-19 symptoms:
  - Fever > or equal to 100.4
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Cough (that is not documented as asthma or allergies)

- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- New loss of sense of taste or smell
- Nausea and/or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Abdominal pain
- Any other COVID-19 symptoms identified by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) or Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)
- By reporting to work on any given day, employees are certifying and verifying that they are not experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. If employees experience any of the above symptoms at any time during a work day, they will immediately notify their building principal, immediate supervisor or designated person. Employees will isolate themselves away from other employees and students pending further direction from the District, and provide necessary information as requested.

#### **Section 4: Certification and Verification of other COVID-19 Related exposures**

- Employees will notify the District that they will be absent pending further direction from the District if:
  - Employee receives a COVID-19 diagnosis
  - Employee is suspected of having COVID-19
  - Employee comes in close contact (definition below) with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19 or is suspected of having COVID-19
  - Employee has traveled internationally
- District staff will contact employees to gather additional information related to the reason(s) for their absence, and employees will provide necessary information as requested.
- By reporting to work on any given day, employees are certifying and verifying that they are not presently subject to an isolation or quarantine protocol related to COVID-19.
- *For COVID-19, the CDC defines a “close contact” as “any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes throughout the day **WITH OR WITHOUT A MASK** starting from 2 days before illness onset (or for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.”*



## **Section 5: Visitor and Vendor Policy**

- To the greatest extent possible, visitors will be restricted to authorized personnel only. All visitors must undergo a health screening prior to entering the building. If the door entrance has a buzzer/intercom, a District employee will ask the visitor health screening questions over the intercom. The 5th grade building does have a buzzer, but no intercom system. At this building, a District employee will conduct health screening outside the entrance to the building. All visitors and vendors entering the building must have their temperature taken and asked the following questions:
  - *Are you taking any fever-reducing medicines, such as those that contain aspirin, ibuprofen, or Tylenol, in order to reduce his/her fever?"*
  - *Have you had close contact or cared for someone with COVID-19 within the past 14 days?"*
  - *Have you returned from travel internationally or have been on a cruise ship or river boat within the past 14 days?"*
  - *Have you been directed to self quarantine by a healthcare provider?"*
  - *Have you been directed to self-quarantine by the County or State Department of Public Health?"*
  - *Do you have any of the following symptoms:*
    - *Fever greater than or equal to 100.4F*
    - *Fatigue*
    - *Muscle or body aches*
    - *Headache*
    - *Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing*
    - *Cough (that is not documented as asthma or allergies)*
    - *Sore throat*
    - *Congestion or runny nose*
    - *New loss of sense of taste or smell*
    - *Nausea and/or vomiting*
    - *Diarrhea*
    - *Abdominal pain*
- The District employee conducting the screening should ensure that they verbally provide any and all health requirements to the visitor before they enter, including but not limited to telling the visitor that he/she:
  - Must wash his/her hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or use appropriate alcohol based hand sanitizer (60% alcohol based or higher) upon entry.

- Must wear a mask at all times within the facilities
- Must observe social distancing by avoiding close contact with other individuals
- School staff will be asked to meet the visitor to conduct business as needed. Visitors will not have access to the building in general as to maintain social distancing and limit exposure. This is in addition to the normal sign in procedures
- **Parents/guardians who need to drop off items for their children must contact the building offices prior to do so.**
- **Parents/guardians who need access to their children are to call the building office upon their arrival and remain in the vehicle until their child(ren) are brought to them.**

## Section 6: Inquiry protocol

- Williamsville-Sherman CUSD15 will utilize the following inquiry protocol after a report by a parent/guardian, employee, or visitor of COVID-19 symptoms, a positive COVID-19 test, being suspected of having COVID-19, or close contact (defined below) with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or is suspected of having COVID-19.
- *For COVID-19, the CDC defines a “close contact” as “any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes throughout the day **WITH OR WITHOUT A MASK** starting from 2 days before illness onset (or for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.”*
- School staff will review COVID-19 symptoms.
- When possible, the questions should be asked by the nurse. Please keep in mind that depending on how sick the individual is, he/she may not be able to answer all the questions. At a minimum, Williamsville-Sherman CUSD15, will attempt to confirm the date of the positive test, date of onset of symptoms, or date of last contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or is suspected of having COVID-19.
- A record shall be maintained of the individual’s response to the questions.
- For an employee, the record shall be maintained in a medical file separate from the personnel file.
- For employees, evaluate whether remote is an option. If not, apply applicable leave for periods of isolation/quarantine and count as excused absences.
- For a student, this would require a student record in his/her file folder and a health note written in Teacherease.

- For a student, institute remote learning protocols, as applicable, or document excused absences.
- Information gathered may need to be shared with the Sangamon County Department of Public Health.

### **Part A. For a Positive COVID-19 Test**

- On what date was the test conducted?
- On what date did you (or your student) receive the positive test result?
- Have you (or the student) experienced any symptoms of COVID-19? If so;
  - When did you begin experiencing symptoms
  - Which symptoms
- On what date were you (or your student) last in the district building or facility?
  - What spaces were you (or your student) in?
  - Were you (or your student) within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes of anyone while in a district building or facility?
    - Identify names (if possible) or groups (i.e. classroom)
- As applicable, review questions above for the 2 days before onset of symptoms or date test was conducted, whichever is earliest.
- Refer to Appendix A and B: Return to School/Work Flow Chart and Exclusion Chart

### **Part B. Symptoms or Suspected of having COVID-19**

- On what date did you (or your student) begin experiencing symptoms of COVID-19?
- What symptoms are you (or your student) experiencing? Is symptom onset new not unusual (i.e. headache, nausea, cough, etc)
- Is there an alternative explanation of symptoms (i.e. ear infection, strep throat, seasonal allergies)? If so, please explain.
- On what date were you (or your student) last in a district building?
  - What spaces were you (or your student) in?
  - Were you (or your student) within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes of anyone while in the district building or facility? Identify names (if possible) or groups (i.e. classrooms).

- As applicable, review questions above for the 2 days before onset of symptoms or date test was conducted, whichever is earliest.
- Refer to Appendix A and B: Return to School/Work Flow Chart and Guidance Chart

**Part C: For Close Contact with Someone Who Tested Positive for Covid-19 or is Suspected to have COVID-19**

- On what date did you (or your student) last have contact with the individual who tested positive or is suspected of having COVID-19?
  - Have you (or your student) tested positive for COVID-19?
    - If yes, please refer to Section 6, Part A, above.
    - If no, please notify the school district if this status changes ( ask questions below)
  - Are you (or your student) experiencing symptoms of COVID-19?
    - If yes, refer to Section 6, Part B, above.
    - If no, please monitor and notify the school district if this status changes (ask questions below)
  - Are you (or your student) experiencing symptoms of COVID-19?
    - If yes, refer to Section 6. Part B, above.
    - If no, please monitor and notify school district if this status changes (ask questions below)
  - On what date were you (or your student) last in the district building or facility? What spaces were you (or your student) in?
  - As applicable, review questions above for the 2 days before onset of symptoms or date test was conducted, whichever is earliest.
  - Refer to Appendix A & B: Return to School/Work Flow Chart and Exclusion Chart

**Part D: Return from International Travel**

- On what dates did you (or your student) travel abroad?
  - When did you (or your student) return to the United States?
  - What country did you travel to?
- On what date were you (or your student) last in a district building or facility?
- Have you (or your student) tested positive for COVID-19?

- If yes, refer to Section 6 Part A, above
- If no, please notify the school district if this status changes
- Are you (or your student) experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19?
  - If yes, Refer to Section 6, Part B, above
  - If no, please monitor and notify the school district if this status changes
  - Refer to Appendix A & B: Return to School/Work Flow Chart and Exclusion Chart

**Part E: Members of a Household (but not employee or student) Comes in Close Contact with an Individual Who Has Tested Positive for COVID-19**

- On what date did the member of your household last have close contact with the individual?
- Is the member of your household presently experiencing any symptoms of or suspected of having COVID-19?
  - If so, on what date did those symptoms begin?
- Has the member of your household tested positive for COVID-19?
  - If so, on what date did they test positive
- If yes to any questions above, refer to Section 6, Part C, above
- If answers no to any questions above, this is simply a monitoring situation and no isolation/quarantine protocols apply. Notify the district if the status of the household member changes, or if you (or your student's) status changes.

**Section 7: Return to School/Work Protocol (Refer to Appendix A & B: Return to School/Work Flow Chart and Exclusion Chart)**

- If an individual indicates that he/she has a release to return to school/work from a health care provider, request a copy for school district records.
- If an individual indicates that he/she may return under "Test Based Strategy," request copies of negative results for the school district records. If results cannot be provided, ask the individual to provide test dates of negative test results and documents for the school district's records.
- If an individual is returning under "Symptom Based Strategy," verify that:
  - At least 14 days has passed since symptom onset

- At least 24 hours since resolution of fever (without fever reducing medications) and improvement of respiratory symptoms. Document for school district records.

## **Section 8: Other Health Care Needs**

- The School Nurse will continue to support students with acute and chronic health conditions
- In order to prevent potential exposure to infectious diseases, promote isolation, and decrease office congestion, please note that students do **NOT** need to go the Nurse's office with the following common situations:
  - Paper cuts, splinters or small abrasions--have the student wash his/her hands and apply a bandaid, if needed.
  - Minor headaches and/or fatigue--allow he/she to get a snack/drink of water first.
  - Mild stomach ache and/or nausea--allow he/she to use the restroom, get a drink of water, and eat a snack, if possible. If not better after 20 min, contact the school nurse.
  - Loss of a tooth
  - Localized bug bite--if no allergy history and not spread over a large area of skin, apply a cool paper towel to the area to help prevent scratching or use bug bite towelette for relief.
  - Anxiety/Stress/Psychosocial issues--if breathing is not affected, try a snack, drink of water, restroom break, redirection, and refer to the building counselor or other applicable services to assist.
- Teachers at the Elementary School will fill out an E-pass listing the student's symptoms and the school nurse will call the student down or make a classroom visit if possible.
- Teachers at the Middle School, Junior High, and High School will call ahead to the school nurse or front office to assess the situation before sending a student to the nursing office.
- In the event of an emergency, students should be sent directly to the nurse's office.

## **Section 9. Daily Medications**

- Parents are highly encouraged to give medications at home before school, if possible.
- For those students that take medications during the school day, he/she will enter the normal school nurse office. Every effort will be taken to keep sick children in an isolated area away from the well child area.

- Nebulizer treatments are not recommended to be administered at school at this time. A spacer is required for all inhalers that will be used at school.

## **Section 10. Nonpharmacological Intervention (NPI) Recommendations for Communicable Disease**

- **Individuals:**
  - Wear a face mask at all times, except for eating and/or outside where you can social distance.
  - Avoid close contact with people who are sick
  - Stay home when you are sick
  - Cover your cough or sneeze into your elbow or tissue, then throw away tissue in the trash. Use hand sanitizer (60% alcohol based or higher) or wash hands for 20 seconds with soap.
  - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. If you do, wash your hands afterwards. Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer (60% alcohol based or higher).
  - Ensure all vaccines are up to date of self and household members.
  - Promote non-contact methods of greeting classmates, teachers, and all staff.
  - Work with school counselors to promote ways to decrease fears, anxiety, stress, and social/emotional needs.
- **Community:**
  - Promote up-to-date vaccinations, including the flu vaccine, in accordance with the Illinois State Law.
  - Educate yourself with as much health information regarding COVID-19, handwashing, personal protective equipment, social distancing, face coverings, etc., from the CDC, IDPH, and SCDPH.
  - Social distance measures required
  - Wear masks, as applicable.
- **Environmental:**
  - Cleaning will be done on high touch surface areas with a disinfectant noted to kill COVID-19.
  - Deep cleaning will be done every day after students exit each building.
  - Exposed areas to illness should wait 24 hours prior to cleaning or if not possible, wait for as long as possible per CDC guidelines.
  - Signs will be posted throughout the schools to encourage hand washing, mask wearing, and social distancing.

- Hand sanitizer dispensers will be located throughout the schools. Each classroom will have hand sanitizer. Students will use it before entering and/or leaving the classroom.
- Students will use hand sanitizer before entering the lunch room and prior to returning to class.
- Food will not be shared at any time during school hours.
- Students will need to place their masks in a pocket, backpack or safe spot during lunch hours. Each mask will be put back on before entering the hallways to go back to class.
- Windows and doors will remain open to increase ventilation, when possible.

### **Section 11: Schools are not expected to screen students or staff to identify cases of COVID-19**

- Adequate education can be provided to recognize symptoms. Symptoms will be individualized, variable, and sometimes even asymptomatic.
- If Williamsville-Sherman CUSD15 had direct cases of COVID-19, appropriate staff will assist local health officials to identify those individuals and will collaborate to follow up on the next steps and begin contact tracing.

### **Section 12: When facemasks May Be Removed**

- Individuals are eating and/or drinking in spaces at designated times
- Individuals are outside and social distance at least 6 feet apart is maintained
- Individuals having trouble breathing. Work with the student on breathing exercises and ways to de-stress.

### **Section 13: Reasonable Accommodations**

- Individuals who cannot tolerate a mask due to a medical condition or disability related condition may be permitted to utilize alternative options such as a face shield or any other reasonable accommodation.
- Mr. Reedy, Superintendent of Williamsville-Sherman CUSD15, or designee shall have the discretion to determine whether an employee or visitor qualifies for reasonable accommodation.



- For student(s) with a medical condition or disability, the student(s) educational team (i.e. IEP team, 504 team, health plan team) will determine whether the student qualifies for a reasonable accommodation and the accommodation is provided.
- Williamsville-Sherman CUSD15 will require an individual to provide a physician's note and/or other relevant information, documents, or certifications with respect to the condition or circumstance.
- Requests for reasonable accommodations that don't include a face mask will be assessed in accordance with applicable State and Federal Law.

### **Section 14: Additional Resources For Face Coverings**

- The purpose of this section is to provide what "face covering" means.
- Examples of face coverings are cloth masks, N95 masks, surgical masks, or other material that fully covers the nose and mouth and is approved by the CDC.
- Below additional information and resources are listed regarding face coverings:
  - **Illinois Department of Public health**
    - **Guidance on the Use of Masks by the General Public | IDPH**
  - **CDC Recommendations for Cloth Face Covers**
    - **COVID-19: Considerations for Wearing Masks**
  - **CDC Cloth Face Cover FAQ's**
    - **Use Masks to Help Slow Spread**

### **Section 15: Consequences for Violating School Policy**

- An Individual's refusal to wear a face covering in accordance with this policy shall constitute a violation of the District's applicable rules of conduct.
- Any student who refuses to wear a make without a medical reason will be prevented from entering the District's buildings, facilities, or transportation vehicles until the individual complies with the policy.
- Face covering designs and images must comply with the District's Student Appearance Policy and must not disrupt the educational process, interfere with positive/learning atmosphere, or compromise reasonable standards of health, safety, and decency. The Superintendent or designee shall apply and enforce this policy.

- For the safety of students and staff, any individual who chooses not to and/or refuses to wear a face mask will be encouraged to and/or required to continue his/her education with remote learning.

## **Section 16: Communicable Disease Monitoring**

- **Internal monitoring:**
  - Collaborate with school secretaries to record detailed symptoms when students are called in for sick days, including COVID-19 like symptoms, diagnosis, or possible exposure.
    - The School Nurse will monitor school absentee rates
  - Document staff and visitor visits to each building
  - Tracking processes to monitor individuals out sick from school will be maintained by the School Nurse.
    - Tracking ensures discontinuation of home isolation or quarantine have been met.
    - Process will be communicated to families and staff.
  - If a case is positive in Williamsville-Sherman CUSD15, this is a reportable condition as required by the IDPH Infectious Disease Reporting requirements.
  - Maintain a list of students who are religious and medical exempt from vaccinations. Notification and exclusion may be necessary if an outbreak occurs.
- **External monitoring:**
  - Maintain ongoing monitoring of local, national, and global health trends.
  - Continue to follow up-to-date communications from the Sangamon County Department of Public Health (SCDPH), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), Center for Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), The Governor's Office, and Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) regarding community specific communicable disease concerns, planning, and interventions.

## **Section 17: Considerations for Closure of Schools**

- Correspond with IDPH and CDC guidelines regarding interventions when considering school closure and guidance.
- SCDPH will be notified when there is a concern with a number of absences due to similar symptoms. Mr. Reedy, Superintendent, makes the final decision regarding school closure.

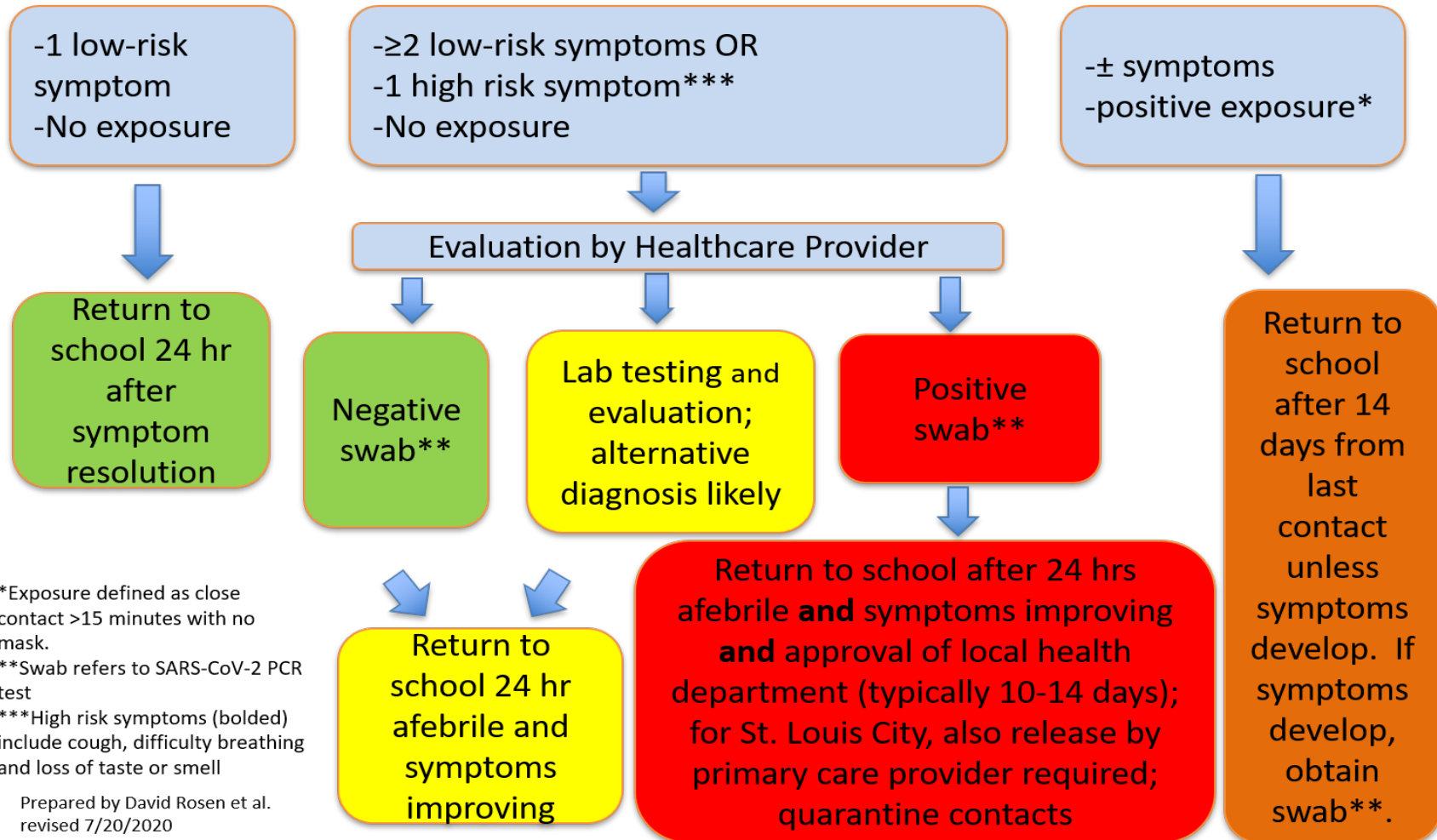
## **Section 18: Resources**

1. Sangamon County Department of Public Health (2020, July 22) Additional Guidance for Screening, Testing, Isolation/Quarantine, and Return to School.  
Illinois Department of Public Health (2017, March 28) Communicable Disease Chart for Schools. Retrieved from: <https://dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/publications/commchartschool-032817.pdf>
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## APPENDIX A: SCHOOL NURSE ALGORITHM

**School Nurse Algorithm:** Screen all students for potential COVID-19 symptoms or exposure:  
Any new **cough, difficulty breathing, loss of taste/smell**, fever ( $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ ), congestion/runny nose, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, sore throat, headache, myalgia, or exposure\* to COVID-19 positive person?



## APPENDIX B: EXCLUSION GUIDANCE

### COVID-19 EXCLUSION GUIDANCE<sup>1</sup>

#### Decision Tree for Symptomatic Individuals in Pre-K, K-12 Schools and Day Care Programs



Send home or deny entry (and provide remote instruction) if ANY of the following symptoms are present: Fever (100.4°F or higher), headache, shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain.

In addition, some individuals (especially adults) may present with the following symptoms: congestion or runny nose, new loss of sense of taste or smell, nausea, fatigue, muscle or body aches.

**Medical Evaluation and Testing are Strongly Recommended for ALL Persons with COVID-Like Symptoms.**

Status	COVID-19 diagnostic test Positive (confirmed case) OR COVID-19 diagnosis without diagnostic testing (probable case)	Symptomatic individual with a negative COVID-19 diagnostic test <sup>2</sup> <i>(Negative COVID-19 diagnostic test must be from a specimen collected 48 hours prior to or after symptom onset.)</i>	Symptomatic individual with an alternative diagnosis without negative COVID-19 diagnostic test <sup>2</sup>	Symptomatic individual without diagnostic testing or clinical evaluation	Asymptomatic individual who is a close contact to a confirmed OR probable COVID-19 case
Evaluated by Healthcare Provider?	YES	YES / NO	YES	NO	NA
Return to School Guidance	Stay home at least ten <sup>3</sup> calendar days from onset of symptoms AND for 24 hours with no fever (without fever-reducing medication) AND improvement of symptoms.	Stay home until symptoms have improved/resolved per return-to-school criteria for diagnosed condition. Follow provider directions, recommended treatment & return to school guidance as per school policies and <a href="#">IDPH Communicable Diseases in Schools</a> .	Stay home until symptoms have improved/resolved per return-to-school criteria for diagnosed condition. Follow provider directions, recommended treatment & return to school guidance as per school policies and <a href="#">IDPH Communicable Diseases in Schools</a> .	Stay home at least 10 <sup>3</sup> calendar days from onset of symptoms AND for 24 hours with no fever (without fever-reducing medication) AND improvement of symptoms.	Stay home for 14 calendar days after last exposure to the COVID-19 case. If COVID-19 illness develops, use the ten-day isolation period <sup>1</sup> guidance for a COVID-19 case from the onset date. Testing is recommended.
Quarantine for Close Contacts?	YES	NO	NO	Household Member (e.g., Siblings, Parent) <sup>4</sup>	NA
Documentation Required to Return to School	'Release from Isolation' letter issued by Local Health Department and provided to parent/guardian or individual	Negative COVID-19 test result OR healthcare Provider's note indicating the negative test result	Healthcare Provider's note with alternative diagnosis	Note from parent/guardian documenting that the ill student and/or household contacts are afebrile without fever-reducing medication and symptoms have improved.	'Release from Quarantine' letter issued by Local Health Department and provided to parent/guardian or individual

<sup>1</sup> Based on available data and science, schools must make local decisions informed by local context in consultation with their local public health department.

<sup>2</sup> Severely immunocompromised or severely ill: may need to isolate for 20 days as per guidance from individual's infectious disease physician.

<sup>3</sup> If individual has been identified by public health for quarantine or knows they are a close contact to a case, the 14-calendar-day quarantine must be completed.

<sup>4</sup> Consider quarantine for other close contacts if there was poor adherence to social distancing or use of face coverings.