Back to School 2020-2021 Update August 27

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Mask Updates/Issues

- Word from Governor’s Office: A chiropractor is not qualified to make the type of diagnosis needed for mask exemptions
- Concerns of a Dr. Martin Dubravec (allergist in Cadillac) giving out excessive mask and face shield exemptions
  - Other docs like this are doing the same in state
  - Per call to office: only giving them for legitimate medical diagnoses
- What to do if question validity of notes: keep out of school, require documentation of the diagnosis, require exemption form from their PCP
New Resources

- Spectrum Health did launch a website with school support resources. That link is: https://www.spectrumhealth.org/covid19/school-resources
  - Great videos, handouts
Contacts of contacts

- Contacts of a close contact to a case DO NOT need to be notified, do not need to put in quarantine, etc.
  - Pg. 6 of Toolkit, pg. 4 of Handouts:

Since close contacts are not yet known to be infected, the contacts to those contacts do not need to be in quarantine and do not need to be identified or contacted. The large majority of close contacts do not get COVID-19, but, because it is very contagious, we must be cautious. Example of a contact of a contact:

- Bob sits next to Fred in class. Fred gets sick with COVID-19. Bob needs to be in quarantine but is healthy at this time. Bob plays on the football team. No one on the football team has been near Fred. Therefore, the football team doesn’t need to be notified about Fred being sick or worry about Bob being on quarantine at this time. Odds are, Bob will not get sick and will be back to school and football in a couple of weeks.
Travel

- The CDC changed recommendations 8/10.
- It is recommended to “take extra precautions” such as staying home if you were involved in activities or situations that can increase your risk of exposure to COVID-19 which include:
  - Being in an area that is experiencing high levels of COVID-19 spread. You can check the levels for places you traveled, including countries, U.S. states and territories, counties, and cities.
  - Going to a large social gathering like a wedding, funeral, or party.
  - Attending a mass gathering like a sporting event, concert, or parade.
  - Being in crowds – for example, in restaurants, bars, airports, bus and train stations, or movie theaters.
  - Traveling on a cruise ship or river boat.
- For domestic travel: there is not set definition of this. If you wish, you could utilize [https://globalepidemics.org/key-metrics-for-covid-suppression/](https://globalepidemics.org/key-metrics-for-covid-suppression/) map and consider precautions after travel to any orange or red states. This is not a state or health department recommendation, only something you can consider based on your HR recommendations.
We received confirmation that Hearing and Vision will need to have an Executive Order signed by the governor to allow Local Health Departments leniency with the Kindergarten entry requirements and the Frequency of Screening as stated in the Rules associated with Part 93, Public Act 368 of 1978.

- We have started this process and will provide all Local Health Departments with the signed Executive Order when it is enacted.

Until a signed Executive Order is available, please share with your schools that children should not be excluded from attending if they don’t have the required Hearing and Vision screenings.

With regard to the MCIR reporting deadline of November 1st, the Executive Order will allow leniency.
School Lunches

- Recommend plex glass on tables to reduce the risk of kids sitting across from each other.
- Pre-bag lunches and deliver to classrooms.
- Distribution of bagged lunches as students enter building.
  - Food may need to be Non Time/Temp control for safety foods
  - Allergen Warning
- Reducing capacity to 50% in cafeteria
  - Utilizing gym and other areas to promote social distancing.
  - Promote outside eating when weather will allow.
- If cafeteria line is utilized
  - Spacing reminders – Signs and floor markers
  - Reduce self-service only pre-packaged and pre-wrapped foods
  - Food staff pre-plate meals and student pick up at end of line.
  - Promote multiple pick up locations in the building.
  - Assigned seating at tables for the semester
- Food staff utilizing their own work station and meal prep instead of assembly line set up to promote social distancing.
- Recommend plex glass between students and food staff at lunch lines and cashier.
- Limiting menu selection
- Eating in classrooms (if handwashing in classroom)
- Using hallways for food distribution
- Getting off the bus and using that as a food distribution point for breakfast service
- Cafeteria split in quadrants (easier to clean and Sanitize)
- Resources:
  - Guidance from MDE (shared with EH at LHD-will forward)
  - Interim COVID-19 Cafeterias and Food Service Guidance-Washington
Handling Symptoms: Employees (adults)

- Per the CDC “Employees who have symptoms ...should not return to work until they have met the criteria to discontinue home isolation and have consulted with a healthcare provider.” (10 days and 24 hrs. no fever and symptoms improved)

- No where do they say “or if they have a negative test”

- ONE of the following:
  - Feverish
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath

- OR TWO of the following:
  - Muscle aches without another explanation
  - Chills
  - Sore throat
  - Headache
  - Vomiting or Diarrhea
  - Loss of taste or smell

- Realistically: if you have staff with minimal symptoms, no identified risks for COVID-19, improving, and test negative: it is up to you if you want to let them return to work prior to 10 days
Handling Symptoms: Students

- Primary symptoms of concern:
  - Temperature 100.4 or signs of fever (chills/sweating)
  - Sore throat
  - New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing
  - Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
  - New onset of severe headache

- Other symptoms as on CDC [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html) still can apply based on level of concern (transmission in school, community, student’s exposures)

- Requirement to have testing prior to return to school, need to finish 10-day isolation, etc. can be based on their risk of COVID:
  - Travel to areas with higher risk of spread
  - Exposure to anyone with COVID
  - Higher levels of community transmission in your area

- OR you can make it universal for all students with symptoms (see Oregon
Things to Send Out

- Template letter: case in school
- MDE: MEAL SERVING OPTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS WHEN RETURNING TO SCHOOL
- Oregon school scenarios
- Copy of positivity/rates
Recommended Resources

■ Oregon Resources-very good, very detailed:
  – Planning for COVID-19 Scenarios in Schools
  – Flowcharts for school scenarios
  – READY SCHOOLS, SAFE LEARNERS GUIDANCE FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2020-21

■ Interim COVID-19 Cafeterias and Food Service Guidance-Washington

■ Spectrum Health School Resources
  – https://www.spectrumhealth.org/covid19/school-resources