



WATERBURY
Public Schools

Today's Students, Tomorrow's Leaders

Guidelines and Communication Protocol for Student/Staff Member with Confirmed Case of COVID-19, COVID-19 Symptoms or Family Member with Confirmed Case

Signs or symptoms may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus.

The following symptoms may be indicative of COVID-19:

[\(CDC Symptoms\)](#)

- Cough
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- Chills/repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea
- Fever $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ or feverish feeling
- Known close contact with a person who has COVID-19

If a student or staff member is confirmed to have a case of COVID-19 (parent or staff member must provide documentation from their healthcare provider of PCR COVID-19 test), the following protocol will be activated immediately:

- Principal will immediately notify the school nurse, who will notify the school nursing manager, who will notify Waterbury's Contact Tracing Team to initiate contact tracing to identify **close contacts (defined as spending at least 15 minutes (within one day) within 6 feet of a person with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 during their infectious period or having direct contact with an infected person's droplets)**.
- The Principal will also notify the District's Chief Operating Officer, who will notify Superintendent Ruffin as well as Senior Cabinet members.
- District will ensure proper sanitizing of affected classrooms and common areas or entire school campus
- In either case, timely notification will be made to the school community via various communication methods while maintaining confidentiality.

(Last Revised 9-15-20)

- Superintendent Ruffin, in collaboration with the City of Waterbury, the city's Director of Public Health and School Medical Advisor, will make the appropriate decision regarding a class or school closure.

If a student or staff member develop symptoms of COVID-19 during the school day:

- Immediately isolate the student/staff member with COVID-19 symptoms (such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath) at school. The staff member will be sent home immediately and the student's parent/guardian contacted. If a student/staff member becomes ill at home, they should stay home and notify the Principal immediately (**do not wait until the next school day**).
- If individual is cleared to return to school following a **PCR COVID-19 test**, the parent/staff member **must provide documentation from their healthcare provider**. Student will be able to learn from home during the isolation period.
- If the individual is confirmed to have COVID-19, they should notify the Principal immediately. The protocol outlined above will be activated.

If a student or staff member has close contact with individual confirmed to have a case of COVID-19 (i.e. family member):

SYMPTOMS:

- If a student/staff member had close contact with an individual diagnosed with COVID-19 and *has* symptoms themselves, immediately isolate them. The staff member will be sent home immediately and the student's parent/guardian contacted. If a student/staff member becomes ill at home, they should stay home and notify the Principal immediately (**do not wait until the next school day**).
 - If individual tests **negative**: In accordance with the CT DPH, self-isolation for at least 14 days since the onset of symptoms and until at least 24 hours have passed with no fever (without fever-reducing medications) and with improvement in other symptoms.
 - If individual tests **positive**: Follow recommendation above in consultation with healthcare provider and Principal will notify school nurse and Will Clark. at which point the "Confirmed Positive Case" protocol outlined above will be activated immediately.

NO SYMPTOMS:

- If a student/staff member had close contact with an individual diagnosed with COVID-19, but they themselves do not have symptoms, they should stay home and notify the Principal immediately (**do not wait until the next school day**) and get tested.
 - If individual tests **negative**: In accordance with the CT DPH, self-isolation for at least 14 days since the onset of symptoms and until at least 24 hours have passed with no fever (without fever-reducing medications) and with improvement in other symptoms.

- If individual tests **positive**: Follow recommendation above in consultation with healthcare provider and Principal will notify school nurse and Will Clark. at which point the "Confirmed Positive Case" protocol outlined above will be activated immediately.