



School District of the City of Iron Mountain

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Good Afternoon Mountaineer Families,

I wanted to first say thank you for a great first day back. Our success in the coming days and weeks all starts with a great first day. Busses ran on time, parents ran on time, kids were excellent, and it was simply awesome to see faces again. To the teachers, staff, students, parents, volunteers, and to all the working hands that go into bringing kids back to school successfully, THANK YOU!

I want to give parents just a very brief update on some topics related to close contact tracing and quarantine to help you understand the current process. If the school becomes aware of a case of COVID-19 in a student or staff member:

1. Isolate the student or staff member
2. Ensure proper cleaning and disinfection
3. Notify the local health department
4. Notify the school community
5. Identify close contacts
6. Close contacts should quarantine right away

Designated school staff will notify the health department as soon as possible, but within 24 hours per the requirements of the October 6 epidemic order, Reporting of Confirmed and Probable Cases of COVID-19 at Schools. The health department will notify our designated school staff contact (school nurse) when they become aware of a case as well.

Close contact: For COVID-19, a close contact is someone that has been within 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) of an infected person for at least 15 minutes, or for a total of 15 minutes in a 24-hour period, with or without a face covering. Close contacts will need to quarantine for 10 days and monitor for symptoms for 4 additional days.

Exceptions of close contacts include:

- **Close contact is fully vaccinated**
 - o Fully vaccinated: 14 days after the second dose of a two-dose series (Pfizer, Moderna) or 14 days after the one dose of a one dose series (Johnson & Johnson).
- Students who were within 3-6 feet of an infected person **if BOTH the infected person AND the exposed person correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.**

IMPS will not be asking for proof of vaccination at this time. However, though these exceptions will not be required to quarantine, they should monitor for symptoms. Parents, if you believe your student has been a close contact outside of the school setting, please do not send them to school until you are able to confirm it is safe to do so. Also, IMPS would like to prevent unnecessary exclusions of students who do not have COVID-19. If your student experiences symptoms, not related to other known or diagnosed medical conditions, please keep them home and follow our excused absence policy.

Again, thank you for your patience and understanding. IMPS remains committed to providing our parents and students with the best possible options and will work with each individual and family to ensure a successful school year. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call, and we will do our best to assist you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jerry Sardina'.

Jerry Sardina
Superintendent