



## CANTON UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT #66

Every Canton student embraces individuality and is prepared, respectful, driven, and empowered to pursue their future.

### Canton Union School District #66 Test-to-Stay Plan and Procedures

## Contact Tracing, Close Contacts, and Quarantine Options

According to the [Revised Public Health Guidance for Schools](#):

***Students and staff who are fully vaccinated with no COVID-19-like symptoms do not need to quarantine or be restricted from school or extracurricular activities. However, CDC does recommend that fully vaccinated individuals test for COVID-19, 3-5 days after a close contact exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.***

### Contact Tracing

Contact tracing, in combination with isolation and quarantine, is used by health departments to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. In general, contact tracing involves identifying people who have a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 and people who they came in contact with (close contacts) and working with them to interrupt disease spread. This includes asking people with COVID-19 to isolate and their contacts to quarantine at home voluntarily.

Per IDPH guidance, the Fulton County Health Department (FCHD) is the final authority on identifying close contacts and determining who is to be quarantined and for how long.

### Close Contacts

For all individuals where exposure occurred outside of the classroom setting and for adults in the indoor Prek-12 classroom setting, CDC defines a close contact as an individual not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

**For students in the classroom setting, contacts who are within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student do not require quarantine as long as both the case and the contact are consistently and correctly masked.**

However, if students are not consistently masked (e.g., during lunch), then close contacts are defined as those who were within 6 feet of the infected student for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

In general, individuals who are solely exposed to a confirmed case while outdoors should not be considered close contacts.

**NOTE:** The infectious period of close contact begins two calendar days before the onset of symptoms (for a symptomatic person) or two calendar days before the positive sample was obtained (for an asymptomatic person).

## Quarantine Options for the Unvaccinated

### *Options for Students to Return to School from Quarantine After an Exposure*

The Fulton County Health Department (FCHD) will make the final determination on who is to be quarantined and for how long. They also may determine that a close contact is not a candidate for modified quarantine due to a high-risk exposure (e.g sustained contact without masking).

- **Option 1: Quarantine at home for 14 calendar days.** The date of last exposure is considered day 0.
- **Option 2: Quarantine at home for 10 calendar days** after the close contact's last exposure to the COVID-19 case. The date of last exposure is considered day 0.
  - The individual may end quarantine after day 10 if no symptoms of COVID-19 developed during daily monitoring.
  - SARS-COV-2-PCR testing is recommended and may be required by the local health department.
  - The individual can maintain physical distancing and masking at all times when returning to school; for classrooms where masking is strictly adhered to, a physical distance of 3 to 6 feet is acceptable for return.
- **Option 3: Quarantine period is for seven calendar days** after the last exposure if:
  - No symptoms developed during daily monitoring AND the individual has a negative SARS-COV-2 diagnostic test (PCR) that was collected within 48 hours of exposure day 7 (starting on day 6 or after).
    - The individual is responsible for obtaining a copy of the negative results for documentation purposes.
    - The individual can maintain physical distancing and masking at all times when returning to school; for classrooms where masking is strictly adhered to, physical distance of 3 to 6 feet to return.
- **Option 4: Test-to-Stay Strategy (for school-related exposures)**, as has been documented by CDC, if schools test close contacts, as defined above, on days 1, 3, 5, and 7 from date of exposure by a PCR (community testing site and/or school district testing program), close contacts are permitted to remain in the classroom as long as the results are negative. Canton Union School District is currently planning a testing program with Midwest Coordination Center/Battelle (dates/times still tbd). We will not accept a home antigen test. (See [IDPH's Interim Guidance on Testing for COVID-19 in Community Settings and Schools](#) for specific details on testing in schools.)

- Test-to-Stay is only applicable when both the COVID-19-confirmed case and close contact were engaged in consistent and correct use of well-fitting masks, regardless of vaccination status (universal masking), as required by [Executive Order 2021-18](#).
- Test-to-Stay may be used for any indoor exposure, with the exception of household exposures, for both students and staff who are not fully vaccinated.
- Students or staff who are not fully vaccinated and engaged in Test-to-Stay after an exposure may participate in extracurricular activities. Local health departments have the authority to order a classroom-only Test-to-Stay protocol after assessing the risk of an individual situation.
- However, if the close contact is identified 5 days or more from the date of exposure, adjust testing accordingly, ideally on days 5 and 7 after the last exposure.
- When testing in the outlined cadence is not possible due to weekends and holidays, students and staff who are not fully vaccinated should be tested at the earliest possible opportunity.
- At the conclusion of the Test-to-Stay modified quarantine period, the school should notify the local health department that the individual has successfully completed testing and remained negative.
- Local health departments have the authority to assess high-risk exposures and order a traditional quarantine without the option for Test-to-Stay.
- If at any time the student tests positive or becomes symptomatic, they should be immediately isolated and sent home, and the local health department notified.

Regardless of when an individual ends quarantine, daily symptom monitoring should continue through calendar day 14 after the exposure. Individuals should continue to adhere to recommended mitigation strategies, including proper and consistent mask use, physical distancing, hand hygiene, cough hygiene, environmental cleaning and disinfection, avoiding crowds and sick people, and ensuring adequate indoor ventilation. If any symptoms develop during or after ending quarantine, the individual should immediately self-isolate and contact the FCHD or healthcare provider to report their symptoms. The health department can provide guidance on how to safely quarantine and isolate within the household.