



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We wanted to share that the isolation and quarantine period for students and staff members sick with COVID-19 symptoms, that have had a positive test or those considered a close contact has been **reduced to five days**.

The Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois State Board of Education and Henry-Stark Counties Health Department announced that the agencies have adopted CDC guidance for P-12 schools that cuts in half the isolation and quarantine period. The Centers for Disease Control updated its [guidance](#) for P-12 schools on January 6.

As a result, effective tomorrow, Thursday, January 13, 2022, Geneseo CUSD 228 will implement the updated guidance. We are working with the local health department today and as soon as possible, we will contact staff, students and families who are currently impacted by a quarantine and who are eligible with a revised return to school plan. You will receive contact from your school nurse regarding your child’s return date.

Today’s announcement **does not** change the state of Illinois’ mask requirement for anyone inside school buildings. The Governor’s indoor mask mandate for school districts is still in effect until further notice.

**\*Students and staff are only eligible to return early if asymptomatic or if fever-free without fever-reducing medication for 24 hours, diarrhea/vomiting have ceased for 24 hours, and other symptoms have improved. Please see the table below.**

<p><i>If you test positive for COVID-19 (exclusion)</i></p>	<p><i>Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, must do the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Stay home for a minimum of five days and a maximum of 10 days after the first day of symptoms or the specimen collection date from positive viral test for asymptomatic persons.</i></li> <li>• <i>Continue to wear a mask around others for five more days after returning to school.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Individuals may return to school after five days if asymptomatic or if fever-free without fever-reducing medication for 24 hours, diarrhea/vomiting have ceased for 24 hours, and other symptoms have improved.</i></p>
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<p>If you have COVID-19- like symptoms (exclusion)</p>	<p>Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, must immediately be excluded from school until:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Receiving a negative test result that confirms the symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19; or</li><li>• For a minimum of five days and a maximum of 10 days until fever free without fever reducing medication for 24 hours, diarrhea/vomiting have ceased for 24 hours, and other symptoms have improved.</li></ul> <p>Individuals must continue to wear a mask around others for five more days after returning to school.</p> <p>Those testing positive should be excluded from school and follow guidance for persons testing positive.</p>
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Thank you for your continued support of our students and teachers. It's been an incredibly difficult year, but we will continue to push forward together. More information is attached and will be shared soon.

Sincerely,

Dr. Adam Brumbaugh  
Superintendent