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OABCIG Parents/Guardians:

Governor Kim Reynolds has released a statement for the public regarding COVID-19 guidelines. This statement includes updated guidance with regard to the wearing of an acceptable face covering and contact tracing. So what does this mean for schools?

In collaboration with local public health departments, the OABCIG Community School District will continue to encourage physical distancing when possible, and **STRONGLY** recommend facial masks be worn in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The likelihood of being identified as a close contact can be significantly decreased, allowing for staff and/or students to remain in school if consistent and correct mask usage is utilized.

For example, If a student or staff member were to test positive for COVID-19, close contact tracing will still be completed, but with the new guidelines. Those guidelines state that if **both** the identified close contact **AND** the positive individual were wearing a facial mask correctly, the individual(s) who are close contacts would **not** need to quarantine for 14 days. The positive individual would still follow quarantine guidelines per public health.

There may be some students or staff that cannot wear a face covering at all times for medical reasons. If this is the case, it would be the responsibility of the non-mask wearing individual to maintain proper physical distance from others to minimize the potential for others to be identified as close contacts causing them to need to quarantine.

This new proclamation does not apply to contact with a positive household member. Those individuals will still be required to quarantine for 14 days from last contact with the positive individual.

The same high risk/low risk symptom guidelines will continue to be utilized in determining illness and referrals to health care providers are still in effect. Please see the following resources for additional information:

[How to properly wear a mask:](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/hcp/fs-facemask-dos-donts.pdf)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/hcp/fs-facemask-dos-donts.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

If you have any questions, please contact either Nurse Lindberg or myself.

Sincerely,

Matt Alexander
OABCIG Superintendent

Tiffany Lindberg
OABCIG District Nurse