



Jefferson City Schools

COVID-19 Response Protocols

2021-2022

System leaders will continue to collaborate regularly with local and state health and safety officials to monitor the events surrounding COVID-19 and the impact in our community. Significant changes in the number of positive cases of COVID-19 or its variants may alter operational procedures. Decisions about implementing system- and school-based strategies (e.g., system closures or partial closures, dismissals, event cancellations, other social distancing measures) related to COVID-19 will be made in collaboration with local health and safety officials. All decisions regarding school system operations will be made taking into account recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH), and Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE).

Confidentiality will be maintained at all times consistent with applicable state and federal laws. Individual names of confirmed positive cases will not be released. All positive COVID-19 cases should be reported to the Georgia Department of Public Health, and all necessary contact tracing is the responsibility of public health officials. JCS will not require healthy, precautionary quarantines at this time. For any confirmed COVID-19 positive cases of JCS students or employees, parents/guardians of students in the same classroom(s) will be notified by email through Infinite Campus Messenger. The number of confirmed positive cases will be monitored on a weekly basis to determine if procedures regarding healthy, precautionary quarantines need to be adjusted. All information released about confirmed COVID-19 cases will be in compliance with local, state, and federal guidelines, including HIPAA and FERPA regulations, with regard to maintaining confidentiality and protecting the health and rights of employees and students.

Suspected COVID-19 Case

I. A student/employee who is at school experiences COVID-19 symptoms:

- The individual should report immediately to the school nurse.
- If the individual is a student, the parent/guardian will be notified immediately.
- The nurse will isolate the individual to the extent possible and provide proper personal protective equipment (PPE) if necessary until the individual can be taken or sent home.
- The individual should stay home and consult with a healthcare provider.
- The nurse (or official designee) will contact local health officials, as needed, for guidance on next steps, including instructions for returning to school or work.
- After completing the quarantine, the individual will immediately report to the nurse's office upon arrival at school to be screened and cleared for return.

II. A student/employee who is not at school experiences COVID-19 symptoms or is exposed to COVID-19:

- The individual should stay home and consult with a healthcare provider.
- The individual should contact the school nurse as quickly as possible.
- The nurse (or official designee) will contact local health officials, as needed, for guidance on next steps, including instructions for returning to school or work.
- After completing the quarantine, the individual will immediately report to the nurse's office upon arrival at school to be screened and cleared for return.

Confirmed COVID-19 Case

In the event there is a confirmed positive case in the school setting, the following will occur:

- The individual should stay home and contact the school nurse as quickly as possible.
- The school nurse (or official designee) will immediately contact local health officials for guidance on next steps, including instructions for returning to school or work.
- After completing the quarantine, the individual will immediately report to the nurse's office upon arrival at school to be screened and cleared for return.