



TWINSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Twinsburg Schools Family:

It's time to start another great year of learning and growing as our students return for Soft Reopening this week. Our Tiger staff is excited to meet your child and to support them along the way!

In our Back-to-School mailer which you should have received a few weeks ago, I outlined the COVID-19 protocols that were current...at that time! However, as you know, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, and on August 11, 2022 the CDC updated its guidance on how people can protect themselves and others from COVID-19, what actions to take if exposed to COVID-19, and what actions to take if you have symptoms or test positive with the virus. While we see cases on the rise, hospitalizations continue to remain low. With the development of vaccination and antivirals although individuals may still experience symptoms, the risk of hospitalization from severe illness is low. The CDC has shifted to more of a personally driven prevention/containment model for COVID-19 therefore, ODH is updating its guidance for Ohio K-12 schools and recommending the CDC's general guidance to best protect student's in the school setting. This updated guidance includes:

- First, because contact tracing and case investigation has shifted to focus on high-risk environments, such as long-term care facilities and healthcare settings, **ODH is no longer recommending the [Mask to Stay, Test to Play](#) quarantine alternative for schools;**
- Instead, ODH recommends schools follow [general isolation procedures from the CDC](#) for confirmed cases. **If students or staff members feel sick or suspect they might have COVID-19, they should stay home and take a COVID test. If positive, students and staff should stay home from school for at least five (5) days and longer if necessary until fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication) and symptoms are improving.** For the purpose of counting the days of isolation, day #1 is the day after the COVID-19 test was administered. The Twinsburg City School District has test kits available for our Tiger families. If interested, please send a request to: Testingkitrequests@twinsburgcsd.org. Unfortunately, we cannot offer these test kits for travel purposes.

Additionally, after isolation ends, students and staff members should continue to take precautions as they resume normal activities by wearing a mask for five (5) days (or after two negative antigen tests 48 hours apart).

As you probably noticed, the previous requirement of physical distance is no longer supported in this updated guidance, thus, the best way to keep our Tiger family healthy this year is for staff members or students who feel ill to stay home from school, test for COVID as appropriate, and follow the guidance as mentioned above. Also, I encourage our Tiger family to continue to use the good hygiene habits of frequent hand washing and sanitization. I thank you in advance for your consideration and support.

We are set for a fantastic school year! I look forward to seeing you soon at one of our many District or school events.

Let's go Tigers!
Kathi Powers, Superintendent

