

Michael Payne Superintendent

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December 3, 2020

Verdigris Public Schools Parents, Guardians, Staff, and Students,

On December 2, 2020 the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced significant changes to its guidance regarding COVID-19 quarantines, lowering it from the previous standard of 14 days. The new guidance for quarantine at Verdigris Public Schools that reflects the CDC changes is below.

Individuals who have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 may not be around others until one of the two options occurs:

- 7 day quarantine after exposure (requires a negative COVID-19 test taken within 48 hours of the end of the quarantine period AND the person has had no symptoms).
- 10 day quarantine after exposure with no symptoms. Please continue to monitor symptoms for four (4) more days.

Regardless of whether the quarantine is 7 or 10 days, the following should be in place through 14 days after exposure:

- Daily symptom monitoring.
- Mitigation strategies, including correctly and consistently wearing a face covering and social distancing.

State health officials have advised that school districts may immediately begin following the new guidance and can apply it to students and/or employees who may currently be in quarantine and are outside the new quarantine window/protocols.

The safety and health of our students and staff is our top priority.

Sincerely,

Michael Payne Superintendent