

# SIDNEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## **COVID-19 School Protocols**

Sidney Public Schools will continue to work with the Richland County Health Department and Sidney Health Center to ensure the safety of all students and staff. The protocols for positive cases have continued to evolve and we are trying to help families navigate through the various protocols they have been asked to follow. We hope to aid in simplifying this process for students, families and staff.

### **Positive Case**

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 the school district asks that you follow the guidance of your healthcare provider and/or the county health department. We are still actively receiving information on positive cases and quarantines, but due to the rapidly increasing number of positive cases, the timing of the paperwork is not always optimal. Please help us and keep your child home if they test positive for the amount of time suggested by these individuals. We also ask that you provide the school with a signed doctor's note any time your child needs to miss school based on their recommendation.

### **At Home Positive Test**

The school district is aware of the accessibility of at home testing kits. We will be accepting these tests in the event your student tests positive for COVID. Here are the steps you will need to take if you are wanting to go through this process with the school:

1. Take a picture of the testing kit and the result of the test for your student. Please be sure the test is visible in the picture you take. The picture will also need to include the date and your signature in pen or marker. This can be done on a separate piece of paper within the picture of the test. We will need this to ensure no tests/pictures are duplicated.
2. Contact your child's school informing them that your child tested positive through an at home test for Covid. You will need to take a picture you took of the test (including a date and signature in pen or marker) for proof of a positive result. This picture will be sent to your student's school via email or text.
3. If your child has a positive test they will need to quarantine at home for (5) days. During this time your child MAY NOT report to school. They will be asked to continue the completion of any school work they miss while they are out.
4. After the initial (5) days are completed they may return to school as long as they remain asymptomatic. Students that return to school and are asymptomatic will be required to wear a mask for the next 5 while they are on school grounds. Students who return to school after the initial 5 days show symptoms, they will be sent home.

5. Any siblings/parent in the household of the student that tests positive will need to wear a mask while attending school during the initial 5 days. If they remain asymptomatic for those 5 days they will be allowed to attend school without a mask.

The quarantine requirements are only if you are wanting to utilize at home testing. We will be relying on parents to follow these steps and pay attention to the symptoms of their children in the event they have a positive at home test. This is a feature that we encourage you to use, but if you do so this is the process you will need to follow. In the event you do an at home test and keep your child home without following these guidelines, your child will be marked with an unexcused absence. We are just asking that you take a picture of the test and the results of the test (with date and signature in pen or marker) to send to the schools. From there, you will need to follow the guidelines listed above.

Any questions about these guidelines can be answered at your child's school. We encourage you to ask any questions that you may have as you are moving through the process.

I would again like to express appreciation and thanks on behalf of the district. We are moving in the right direction and we wouldn't be able to do this without the help and support of all parents and community members.

Hopefully you found this session informative and we look forward to seeing you at any upcoming events in our schools.

**Last Updated: 1/25/22**