

It is anticipated that the Connecticut DPH will be providing additional guidance on the below matters in the coming days. Therefore, this information is strictly preliminary and subject to change.

Reporting Illness and Addressing Vulnerable Populations

Illness Monitoring Guidelines

- Parents should check their children and staff should check themselves prior to coming to school each day to be sure they do not have symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
 - Families may refer to CDC guidelines titled, [“When You Can Be Around Others After You Had or Likely Had COVID-19”](#) or the [CDC Symptom-Checker](#) for additional information.

When to Stay Home:

Students or staff with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 will be required to remain home. These will include but are not limited to:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

If someone is showing any of these COVID-19 emergency warning signs, seek emergency medical care immediately:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

(Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>.)

Recommended Dismissal for Students and Staff:

- Dismissal will occur when a student or staff member exhibits symptoms consistent with COVID-19 as detailed above **or** at the nurse’s discretion.

Illness Reporting Protocols:

- Parents and staff are to inform the school nurse if their child (or the staff member) is sick with COVID-19 related symptoms, or if they had a known contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19.
- Parents/guardians/staff will be encouraged to seek medical evaluation and COVID-19 PCR testing.
- If students or staff receive a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, the School Nurse will notify the district liaison. The principal or school nurse will notify the EHHD immediately, ensuring that all privacy, public health information confidentiality laws, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) confidentiality has been maintained.
- If a positive test result is reported then immediate coordination with EHHD including compliance with requests for information to assist with contact tracing while adhering to relevant privacy and confidentiality laws.
- The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has provided [guidance](#) that the district is permitted to ask employees if they are experiencing symptoms of the pandemic virus.
- Screening will not be required for all students or staff entering the school building.
- Any staff member or student that travels to [CT DPH current list of COVID-19](#) advisory states will be required to quarantine for **14 days prior to returning to school/work**.
- Schools will maintain a confidential document to be located in the school health office to report and track COVID-19 cases at each school site for staff and students. The document will be submitted to the liaison and the Eastern Highlands Health District at the conclusion of each school week.
 - The district will maintain all information about the employee or student illness as a confidential medical record.