



# ***LABRAE LOCAL SCHOOLS***

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## **Mask to Stay~Test to Play**

**January 4, 2022**

The Ohio Department of Health has issued new guidelines for the quarantining of students and staff. This recommendation is informed by a growing body of national experience, a pilot in Warren County, and experience shared by local health districts that points toward a low number of individuals with direct contact to a COVID-19 positive individual within a school setting who convert to positive cases. These guidelines also include the revised recommendations made by the CDC in December of 2021.

### **School Setting Exposure:**

It is extremely important for students, families, and staff to understand that if an individual, regardless of vaccination or masking status, is identified as a direct contact due to exposure to a COVID positive person in a school setting, the direct contact can remain in school under the following conditions:

- The student/staff member is asymptomatic, or absent of symptoms;
- Required to wear a mask for 10 days from the last date of exposure;
- Self-monitor, and/or parent monitor, for COVID symptoms. Use the following link to review the [symptoms of COVID-19](#);
- Isolate and get tested if the direct contact starts to experience symptoms associated with COVID-19, regardless of level of severity.

*Please note: A school setting is defined as the classroom, the bus, school day meetings, practice, the lunch room, etc.*

### **Non-School Setting Exposure:**

If a student/staff member is identified as a direct contact due to exposure to a positive individual where contact occurred outside of the school setting, the current Ohio Department of Health guidelines, dated December 30, 2021, apply. Please review the following considerations that determine quarantine and masking requirements for the direct contact:

- Whether or not one has to quarantine depends on vaccination status, and the date the vaccine was administered as applicable.

- Fully vaccinated individuals (See appropriate ODH flyer: [ODH Exposed-Vaccinations Current](#)) must wear a mask for 10 days and are permitted to remain in school, if symptoms develop stay home and seek testing;
- Unvaccinated individuals, and individuals without an up to date vaccine (See the appropriate ODH flyer: [ODH Exposed-Unvaccinated Outdated Vaccine](#)), must quarantine for 5 days, test on day 5 if possible, if test is negative, or student/staff is without symptoms, the individual can return to school on day 6. If symptoms develop or the individual tests positive, stay home.

*Note: LaBrae will treat all direct contacts stemming from an out-of-school exposure as unvaccinated, unless the direct contact, or parent, provides proof of vaccination status.*

## **Test to Play:**

Asymptomatic direct contacts who were exposed in a school setting, may continue to participate in extracurricular activities if they do the following:

- Wear a mask when able. This includes wearing a mask in the following settings: transportation; locker rooms; sitting/standing on the sidelines; and anytime the mask will not interfere with breathing, the activity, or create a safety hazard.
- Test on initial notification of exposure to COVID-19;
- Testing on day 5 after exposure is recommended;
- Student-Athletes exposed outside the school setting follow the Ohio Department of Health quarantine guidelines.

***Note: The tests referenced above are SARS-CoV-2 viral (PCR or antigen) tests. They must be proctored (observed by someone) and cannot be an over the counter, at-home test that was self-administered without a proctor.***

LaBrae has a limited number of Binax Now COVID-19 AG Card test kits, which are a proctored test. A parent of a student who has been exposed in a school setting can request a kit from the office. Test kits will be distributed to families on a first come first serve basis.

Please know that these guidelines are informed by experiential circumstances and data available at this time, and as circumstances change, the guidelines may change as well.

**Effective: January 4, 2022**