



--sent 2/3/21--

LPS Community,

We want to take a moment to provide you with a few brief updates as we continue with our *Return to Learn Plan/COVID-19 Response* in LPS.

- While COVID-19 cases within our school communities have somewhat leveled off in recent weeks, the virus is performing at a rate that continues to keep our *COVID-19 Response Team* busy with positive case reports and subsequent quarantines within school sites and district facilities. Our health services team reminds students, staff, and families to continue with the mitigation efforts set forth by health experts that include:
  - 1) Wear a mask
  - 2) Stay 6 feet away from others
  - 3) Regular hand washing
  - 4) Avoid large gatherings
  
- Just prior to the conclusion of first semester in December 2020, the Clay County Public Health Center, in response to revised quarantine language from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), determined that while they still recommended a 14-day quarantine period for all close contacts, they did agree to make it optional to businesses and organizations to reduce the 14-day period to 10 days (provided the individual is not experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms). At the time, Liberty Public Schools did not amend its plan to allow for this reduced period of time, opting to monitor our experience with close contacts who became COVID-19 positive and also keeping an eye on the spread of the virus following the holidays.
  
- Following a comprehensive review in recent weeks, LPS believes it is appropriate and reasonable to revise our guidance to the reduced 10-day quarantine standard. Reasons for this revision include:
  - 1) The number of LPS close contacts becoming COVID-19 positive has been minimal, and are exceedingly rare following days 11-14 of quarantine
  - 2) Of those close contacts becoming COVID-19 positive, few have been due to school exposures during the school day
  - 3) All neighboring school districts have either transitioned to this new quarantine period or will soon be transitioningThis change becomes effective **Wednesday, February 3, 2021**, and we will revise the quarantine period for any active close contacts accordingly. *If your child is currently in a quarantine and this update potentially affects their return to school date, you are encouraged to connect with your home school.*

We will remain committed to providing our staff and families with regular updates as any new information is received related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thanks for your attention, and have a nice evening!

**Office of Communications**  
Liberty Public Schools