

# Blackwater Community School Akimel O’Otham Pee Posh Charter School Inc.

## SY 2021-2022 Re-Entry Plan



## In-person Learning starts Wednesday, July 21

### Purpose

Our opening plan is guided by keeping in mind the health, safety, and welfare of each member of our community school, as well as their family members. The opening plan for Blackwater Community School/Akimel O’otham Pee Posh Charter School (herein after “BWCS”) will address the following scenarios:

- *all students will return to campus, and the school will plan for additional intermittent or long term periods of required remote learning.*

School opening will abide by the guidance and recommendations from the State of Arizona Education Department, the Center for Disease Control, and local authorities. School administration will be in constant communication with tribal, state, Bureau of Indian Education office, and other stakeholders.

Current federal and state guidance may change, and it is critical to prepare for both in-person and distance learning. We fully expect plans to evolve and adapt over time as further guidance becomes available. All in-school hygiene protocols as established by higher authorities including CDC guidelines will be implemented to the extent possible as long as the risk of COVID-19 is present. All employees will be trained on best practices for maintaining and promoting the following main safety guidelines at all times:

- (i) Social distancing to the extent possible
- (ii) Frequent handwashing
- (iii) Wearing face masks
- (iv) Daily deep cleaning
- (v) Daily health screener for employees
- (vi) Daily thermal screening for students and staff

All school assemblies will be hosted in a blended format (on-site\* and virtual), modified lunch schedules and locations, modified format of physical education and other special subject areas such as culture/language, library, and technology.

\*Prior permission for on-site assemblies will be obtained from GRIC COVID Taskforce.

If resurgence demands remote learning due to another mandated shut down, BWCS will be ready and able to transition all students to a virtual platform utilizing Google Classroom, Cisco WebEx, and school wide adopted online programs through Houghton Mifflin Harcourt and Savvas Learning.

School policies related to travel, new requirements regarding temporary leave (e.g., sick leave, emergency paid sick leave, public health emergency leave) and school safety will be amended and available to all staff in the 2021-2022 School Board Policy Manual. Recommended or required staff testing, COVID questionnaires, and symptom screening policies will be included in writing and available to all staff before returning to work in July of 2021.

Some students may have experienced trauma over the previous year, and our staff and community partners will be ready to support those learners. The daily schedule will include additional time built in for Social Emotional Learning, and relationship building among students and their teacher. Counselors will be available at all times for crisis intervention as well as continued individual and small group counseling.

BWCS we will continue to set and maintain high expectations for academic growth and competency development. NWEA assessments will be given the first month of onsite learning to obtain an accurate gauge of student mastery of the previous year's standards. Any gaps in learning will be addressed through adjusting the scope and sequence to allow time to embed missed standards throughout the 2021-2022 school year. Daily schedules will allow for additional time to re-teach the previous year's standards to account for any additional regression in the student's learning. The first four weeks of school will be dedicated to mastering the previous years' power standards for both ELA and math.

### **Declaration of Emergency**

The school principal will have the authority to declare a school level emergency, however during a public health emergency, the Gila River Indian Community Council in collaboration with local School Board of Trustees will be the lead agency. To the greatest extent possible decisions to utilize school closures or dismissals (and when to remain in session) will be made in consultation with Gila River Healthcare officials.

### **Delegation of Authority**

The School Board of Trustees has established an organizational chart displaying the succession of authority at BWCS. The principal will prepare written delegations that assigns his/her authority to another individual in the event of the prolonged absence of the individual who normally holds the authority.

## Incidents of Potential Exposure/Confirmed Case among Staff or Students

In responding to incidents in which BWCS learns of potential exposure of staff or students to COVID-19 or of confirmed COVID-19 infections among staff or students, BWCS will follow the guidelines for operating schools during the COVID-19 pandemic issued by the Centers for Disease Control (the “CDC guidelines”) that are in effect at the time and any applicable public health orders or regulations of the Gila River Indian Community. BWCS’s implementation of the CDC guidelines in effect as of the date of this revision (May 15 2021) is summarized in the sections below. Any updates or changes made to the CDC guidelines will be automatically incorporated into this Opening Plan and followed by BWCS as of the date they are issued. The CDC’s guidelines are posted on the agency’s website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html> . BWCS will post updates to this Opening Plan following changes or amendments to the CDC guidelines on the school’s website ([www.bwcs.k12.az.us](http://www.bwcs.k12.az.us)).

### Implementing the CDC & Local guidelines at BWCS:

If one student or school employee, **who has been on campus in the last 14 days**, and tests positive for COVID-19 and may have exposed others at BWCS, school leaders will implement the following steps:

Each school bus will have a paraprofessional who will be checking the temperatures of each child before allowed to ride the bus. Parents will be required to stay with their child at designated bus stops until the child is cleared to ride the bus. The children who will be dropped off at school by parents, will go through the same screening process before allowed to go into the classroom.

If a child or employee shows covid19 like symptoms while at school, the administration will take the child/employee to our triage room which is located next to Nurse’s office. The school nurse will check and verify the symptoms, School will contact parents of the child and let the parents take the child home or to the doctor . If it is an employee, that staff member will be sent home to follow up with a doctor.

All school employees go through screening questionnaire before they are allowed to enter into their work places.

#### Student:

- Notify parents/guardians that an automatic 14-day, or longer if needed, mandatory self-quarantine will be enforced for all students that reside in the same household.
- After the 14-day self-quarantine, all students in the household must be evaluated if the student(s) have no symptoms or are getting better – per CDC guidelines – they can return to campus after:
  - 10 days since symptoms first appeared **and**
  - 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and**
  - Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving\*
- School administration in collaboration with the school nurse will initiate contact tracing and notify parents and guardians of those students that may have been exposed. Staff members that have been in contact with the student will be notified by school administration. This action will be followed up by notifying authorities as required. Complete confidentiality will be maintained at all times.

### School Employee:

- If any school employee tests positive the Human Resource Office will be notified, the said employee will be excused from working on campus, but may continue to work virtually as long as they are able.
- School administration in collaboration with the school nurse will initiate contact tracing and notify parents and guardians of those students that may have been exposed. Staff members that have been in contact with the employee will be notified by the HR office. This action will be followed up by notifying other authorities as required. Complete confidentiality will be maintained at all times.
- After a positive test, the employee must be evaluated and if the employee has no symptoms or are getting better – per CDC guidelines – they can return to campus after:
  - 10 days since symptoms first appeared **and**
  - 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and**
  - Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving\*

### Household Members of Students and Employees:

- If any household member of a student or employee tests positive for COVID-19, a mandatory 14-day self-quarantine will be enforced based on the current CDC guidelines.
- After the 14-day self-quarantine, either proof of negative test results or statement that there were no symptoms present, will allow said students or employees to return to school.
- The exception to this is proof that the student or employee has had COVID-19 within the past 3 months or is fully vaccinated, has fully recovered, and remains symptom free then **they do not have to quarantine.**

### Teacher Absences:

- The school will make all efforts to accommodate the absenteeism of up to 5 certified homeroom teachers. If there are more than 5 certified homeroom teachers absent for any reason, school administration will notify bus drivers and parents/guardians of students in those homerooms that a prepared assignment packet will be delivered to each of those students' home and they will not be attending school for that day or until such time that it is safe for the students to return. Those students will be considered virtual learning students and counted as present for the day or as long as required.
- If at any time there are fifty percent or more certified homeroom teachers out for any reason, school administration will officially close the on-site learning. All students from that point forward will be moved over to remote learning. School will use all means of communication including but not limited to robo-calls, texting, phone calls, and school website to notify parents and guardians.

### Bus Driver Absences:

- If a bus driver cannot perform their morning pick up duties, the school office will notify the guardians of the students on that route as quickly as possible. Arrangements will be made to delay the route until another driver can pick up the students. Students will not be counted tardy.

- If a bus driver cannot perform their afternoon drop off duties, the school office will notify the guardians of the students on that route as quickly as possible. Arrangements will be made to delay the route until another driver can deliver the students. Guardians may choose to pick the students up at the regular school day dismissal time.
- If 2 drivers call in sick, it may result in virtual learning for the time both drivers are out.

### **Planned Staff Absences:**

- Until further notice, no more than 3 certified homeroom teachers will be approved for leave on the same day(s). School administration and staff must work together to understand the needs of the organization as well as of individual employees.

### **COVID-19 Employee Questionnaire:**

- If any employee circles yes on any item on the screening questionnaire or has a temperature greater than 100.4 degree Fahrenheit during the initial check in time, the following mitigation process will be initiated immediately:
  - The employee will be directed to contact the HR office for further course of action
  - A temperature of greater than 100.4 Fahrenheit will require the employee to be sent home, then contact HR or contact a doctor for care. Employee must go through covid-19 testing and show negative results before the employee returns to school in person.

### **Employees**

- Daily health screeners (at 2 locations)
- Daily temperature checks (at 2 locations)
- Bi-weekly COVID-19 testing for all non-vaccinated employees
- Bi-weekly COVID-19 testing optional for vaccinated employees
- Social distancing protocols in place
- Reduced class size (20:1 ratio)
- PPE-masks and gloves provided
- Mandatory self-quarantine
- Training on best practices for hygiene
- Digital devices for remote teaching

### **Students**

- Daily temperature checks before boarding the bus or entering the school campus
- Social distancing protocols in place
- Reduced class size (20:1 ratio)
- Option to enroll in remote learning
- Digital devices for remote learning
- PPE-masks provided
- Mandatory self-quarantine
- Training on best practices for hygiene
- Frequent handwashing encouraged
- Individual student books and supplies

### **Campus/Transportation**

- All classrooms sanitized multiple times daily
- School buses/vehicles sanitized before and after each route
- Assigned seats on buses and in classrooms
- Students desks spaced out 3 feet when feasible
- All classrooms and offices fogged daily

#### **Parent Educators/Home Visitors**

- Training on best practices for hygiene
- Additional training for in-home visit precautions
- Daily health screeners for parents
- Daily temperature checks for children and families
- Disposable masks provided to each family
- Digital devices provided to each family
- Virtual visits available

#### **Detailed plans for on-site learning:**

##### **Campus:**

- Brand new facility with new HVAC system that exchanges interior air every 34 minutes.
- Each classroom and office is equipped with air purifier units with HEPA filters
- Rooms and offices will be fogged every morning prior to employees or student entrance
- Frequently used surfaces (desks, door handles, restrooms, sinks) will be sanitized the night before and throughout the day
- All students and staff will be expected to wear a mask as appropriate while on campus or on the bus
- 3 feet social distance will be maintained to the extent possible

##### **Morning pick up:**

- Paraprofessional will check students' temperatures before boarding the bus
- Parents will be required to stay with their child at designated bus stops until the child is cleared
- Children that are dropped off at school, will go through the same screening process before allowed on campus

##### **Arrival at School:**

- Hand sanitizer will be dispersed to each student
- Students will eat breakfast in designated areas with their grade level cohort
- Prior to eating students will wash hands in classrooms
- Surfaces will be disinfected after breakfast
- Students will re-wash hands after eating

##### **During School:**

- Students will remain with their grade level cohorts
- Student desks will face forward, individual shields provided and 3 feet distance enforced
- Frequently used surfaces will be sanitized throughout the day
- Before designated grade level lunch time, students will wash their hands in assigned sinks

### **During Lunch:**

- Hands will be sanitized before lunch
- Students will get a premade tray and beverage
- Students will sit in their assigned spot
- Individual shields provided and placed 3 feet in distance when possible
- Students will throw their trays away
- Cafeteria tables and serving surfaces will be sanitized in between grade level cohorts

### **Recess**

- Designated areas by grade level cohort
- Equipment will be sanitized prior to and in between grade level cohort use
- Hand sanitizer will be provided before re-entering the classroom

### **Dismissal**

- Students will board buses and sit in assigned seats

### **After School Duties**

- Teachers/staff will sanitize frequently touched surfaces and door handles
- Cleaning crew will clean and sanitize buildings and common areas

### **Detailed plans for virtual learning:**

Attendance tracking procedures for all students attending remotely.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teachers will take attendance on NASIS daily based on direct contact between teacher and student via Google Classroom, or by phone.</li></ul>
Virtual Teachers will instruct students from campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Homeroom Teachers are expected to provide 45 minutes of direct instruction per subject in ELA and Math daily followed by breakout small group instruction in different virtual rooms.</li><li>• Leadership team on site and on call Monday- Friday 7:30-3:30 to support employees</li><li>• See 2021/2022 Professional Development calendar</li><li>• Lesson plans must be uploaded to Google Classroom and submitted to the administration every Friday by 3:30pm (Whole Group Instruction: Anticipatory Set, Direct Explicit instruction, Check for Understanding, Closure)</li><li>• Small Group Instruction: will follow immediately after whole group lesson with support from special education teachers and paraprofessionals in separate virtual rooms.</li><li>• School Administration and Instructional Coach will attend and assist during live, direct instruction sessions</li><li>• Multiple observations will be taking place by the authorized evaluators during virtual sessions</li></ul>

Detailed plans and examples of how the school district or charter school will provide substantive distance learning such as a description of modes of instruction, methods of content delivery, and a process for monitoring learning. This section shall also include plans to support every student, teacher and staff member in accessing a device and internet connectivity if the plan relies on online learning.

- All students in kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade including Adult Ed students will be assigned a laptop with camera and built in microphone
- Each certified teacher will be provided a laptop with camera and built in microphone
- School purchased 50 subscriptions to online platform WebEx for certified teachers
- Families who do not have reliable access to internet will be provided school purchased Verizon hot spot devices
- School has purchased an annual subscription for ELA through Houghton Mifflin Harcourt for Think Central Online
- Savvas Realize online platform will be used for access to the enVisions math core content
- Students in grades 3-5 will use MI Write online 6-traits based writing instruction and scoring tools programs
- Kindergarten-2<sup>nd</sup> grade students will use SmartyAnts for additional phonics instruction that is tailored to each individual student
- Achieve3000 will be used in grades 3-5 for additional comprehension practice and to incorporate science and social studies standards



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All teachers, including special education teachers will be trained in Google Classroom to manage classes, assign work, connect with students, and maintain records of graded assignments and assessments</li> <li>• The school’s IT tech support staff will be on-site and available Monday-Friday from 7:30-3:30 to assist staff and families with any technical issues</li> <li>• School will create and publish a parent feedback form to provide a direct means of communication with the school administration</li> <li>• Culture and Language packets will be distributed to students of all grade levels.</li> </ul>
<p>Detailed plans and examples of how the school district or charter school will ensure access and meet the needs of special education and English language learners.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All plans for general education teachers and students will be followed by special education teachers and special education students</li> <li>• Special education students will receive services according to their Individual Education Plan (IEP)</li> <li>• Special education teachers will schedule time to meet the minutes outlined in the students’ IEPs</li> <li>• Special education teachers will collaborate with general education teachers to support instruction in core</li> <li>• Lesson plans will be uploaded to Google Classroom and submitted to the administration and sped director every Friday by 3:30pm</li> <li>• Contact with students and parents/guardians will be logged daily in NASIS, the school’s student information system</li> <li>• Related services will follow the teleMed format for delivery of services and logged in NASIS</li> <li>• School will create and publish a parent feedback form to provide a direct means of communication with the school administration</li> <li>• Special Education coordinator will communicate with families to ensure the services are being delivered</li> <li>• The school will provide services per the State's 504 Rehabilitation Act of 1973 per the federal law to all students who qualify. The school will ensure all IEPs plans are followed per the requirements. The school assures that we will not discriminate, has a designee to ensure compliance, provide grievance procedures, identify and locate all children with disabilities who receive education within our school and provide notice of the district’s Section 504 responsibilities and procedural safeguards to parents.</li> </ul>
<p>Detailed plans and examples of how the school district or charter school will provide social and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Skills built into daily virtual learning schedule</li> <li>• School counselors and tribally provided counseling</li> </ul>
<p>emotional learning support to students, including counseling services.</p>	<p>services will be available Monday-Friday to work with students and families</p>

<p>Detailed plans and examples of how the school district or charter school will require students to demonstrate ongoing competency or mastery in grade level or advanced grade level content.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All K-5th grade students will take both standards-based assessments and weekly quizzes from the core curriculum available online</li> <li>• Each student must show a mastery by achieving minimum of 70% on each assessment</li> <li>• Reteach must happen (if needed) either by individual phone calls and/or in separate virtual rooms</li> <li>• Administration expects enough links to relevant audio-visual content available either by access to online core curriculum or on the free domain</li> <li>• All assessments and links to content will be listed in the grade level lesson plans</li> </ul>
<p>Detailed plans on how the school district or charter will conduct benchmark testing within the first six weeks of the school year in math and English/language arts for all students in kindergarten programs and grades one (1) through twelve (12).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All students, K-5th grade will take the NWEA MAP assessment tentatively during the week of August 17th.</li> <li>• Preschool students including the FACE program will assess students by using TSG-Teaching Strategies Gold and Work Sampling Online</li> </ul>
<p>Teacher Collaboration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade level staff are required to collaborate during specials at least once per week and on certain Wednesdays dependent upon the PD schedule</li> <li>• Special education teachers will collaborate with the grade level teachers of the students that they serve</li> </ul>

# BWCS Re-Entry Plan: Frequently Asked Questions for Parents

## School Year 2021-2022

### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Q1: Is the school going to distribute free masks and gloves to all children?**

A1: Yes, the school will provide masks and gloves to all students as needed

**Q2: Are face masks required for students and bus drivers in the school bus?**

A2: Yes, face masks are required at all times by everyone on the school bus

**Q3: Is the school providing plexiglass dividers in the classrooms and cafeteria?**

A3: Yes, the school has plexiglass dividers in place in all classrooms and the cafeteria

**Q4: Will the school be sanitizing classrooms and other areas frequently?**

A4: Yes, all areas of the school will be fogged daily before students arrive on campus. All frequently touched areas will be disinfected routinely throughout the day. Classrooms will be deep cleaned daily after all students leave by a professional cleaning crew.

**Q5: Can students bring their own sanitizer to school?**

A5: No, the students will not be allowed to bring their own sanitizer to school. The school will provide sanitizer in all classrooms and common areas.

**Q6: Are parents/guardians allowed to visit the classrooms?**

A6: No, unfortunately due to COVID-19 visitors will not be allowed until further notice.

**Q7: Are all school employees fully vaccinated?**

A7: No, at this time 77% of the school staff is fully vaccinated.

**Q8: Are school employees required to wear masks while working with the students?**

A8: Yes, all employees will wear face masks while working with students.

**Q9: Will the school buses be cleaned and sanitized daily?**

A9: Yes, the school buses will be fogged and deep cleaned after each bus route.

**Q10: Will there be a bus monitor to supervise students to and from school?**

A10: Yes, bus monitors will be present to take temperatures and monitor student behavior on all morning and afternoon bus routes.

**Q11: Am I required to stay with my child while waiting for the school bus?**

A11: Yes, parents are required to remain with their child/children until they have been screened and approved to board the school bus.

**Q12: Can my child bring his/her own face mask from home?**

A12: Yes, students may wear their own face masks.

**Q13: Will students be allowed to play outside on the playground?**

A13: Yes, students will be allowed to play on designated playgrounds. Play equipment will be cleaned and sanitized between grade levels.

**Q14: What is the procedure in place when a child displays COVID-19 symptoms at school?**

A14: The child will be taken to our designated triage room which is located next to Nurse's office. The school nurse will check and verify the symptoms, while school personnel contact the parents of the child. The student will need to be picked up by the parents and taken home, or to the doctor as needed per the nurse's guidance.

**Q15: If someone in my home tests positive for COVID-19, can my child still attend school?**

A15: No, if a household member tests positive, all students in the home must quarantine for 14 days based on current CDC guidelines.

**Q16: If family provides transportation, where Do drop off my child (ren)?**

A16: You must accompany your child to the admin building and stay until your child's temperature is checked and cleared to go inside the school campus.

# BWCS Re-Entry Plan: Frequently Asked Questions for Parents

## School Year 2021-2022

**Q17: Is the school going to offer virtual classes as well if a family decides to enroll ONLY for Virtual?**

A17: There is no substitute for face-to-face teaching and learning especially for younger grades, we highly recommend for in-person, however, we will be happy to accommodate virtual students.

**Q18: Will I be able to change my mind to change the status of my child from in-person to virtual or vice-versa?**

A18: Yes, a meeting must be held with the school administration before a change is approved.

**Q19: Is school serving breakfast and lunch to my child(ren)?**

A19: Yes, all students will be served breakfast and lunches.

**Q20: Can my child bring his/her own lunch from home?**

A20: Yes, of course.

**Q21: Can I bring in home-made snacks for my child's class for celebrations?**

A21: Due to pandemic conditions, school will allow only pre-packed & sealed snacks. Please try to avoid sugary snacks.

**Q22: New School is so big, will somebody give my child a campus tour?**

A22: Administration is allowing all teachers during the first week to schedule class tours in a such way to avoid big crowds.

**Q23: Where in the new school kindergarten and preschool classrooms are located?**

A23: All Kinder, Preschool, and 1<sup>st</sup> grade classrooms are located on the ground floor.

**Q24: Is my child going to share classroom supplies (pencils, crayons, books, markers etc.) with fellow students?**

A24: Keeping safety in mind, school will provide individual supplies to each student.

**Q25: Is it required for my child to take all schoolwide assessments (tests) at school, if my child is enrolled for Virtual only?**

A25: School administers multiple assessments throughout the school year to check the academic growth and proficiency levels of each child at our school. School must test each student on-site in order to get accurate, valid, and reliable academic data on your child. So, Yes, your child needs to take schoolwide assessments in person and on-site. Most of these assessments are online. School can provide transportation for your child for testing purposes. It is also a part of Arizona state requirements.

**Q26: Is my child required to wear School uniform?**

A26: Yes, school uniform is a requirement for all students. School will, however provide one set of uniform and one clear backpack to each student free of cost.

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**Additional information from CDC Web site:**

**PER CDC: All schools implement 5 key prevention strategies**

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- Universal and correct use of masks required
- Physical distancing
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities
- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine

### AT HOME

*When should sick children stay home from school?*

If your child feels too sick to go to school or childcare, please keep him or her home. Students

# BWCS Re-Entry Plan: Frequently Asked Questions for Parents

## School Year 2021-2022

or staff must stay home from school when they have new or worsening cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, or new loss of taste or smell, with or without fever, or if they test positive for COVID-19 even if they do not have symptoms. Children with a positive COVID-19 test or monitoring symptoms at home should stay home until they have had no fever for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medication AND have had improvement of symptoms AND at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared. If the child tested positive but never developed symptoms, they must stay home until 10 days have passed since they were tested. Siblings, household members and close contacts should also stay home for the recommended length of quarantine; see the question and answer below on the length of quarantine.

*There have been reports that nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea are not considered symptoms. Is this true?*

These can be symptoms of COVID-19 but are not always present in people positive for COVID19 and may not be related to COVID-19 if present.

### **AT SCHOOL**

#### Cleaning & Disinfection

*Does playground equipment need to be cleaned while in use (i.e. every time a different child uses a slide, swing, etc.)?*

Current studies indicate the risk of catching COVID-19 through touching objects is low. While increased cleaning measures are not harmful, normal and standard cleaning will do for playground equipment. Routine hand hygiene is a more effective prevention.

*Are there special considerations or recommendations regarding the use and disinfection of restrooms in or attached to the classrooms? Does the restroom need to be cleaned after every use? Does the student need to wear a mask while in the restroom?*

Staff will assure the bathrooms are cleaned and disinfected routinely using disinfectants that are EPA approved against the virus that causes COVID-19, while paying special attention to high-touch areas. Masks should be worn in the bathroom, including single-use restrooms.

#### Close Contacts

*Is testing recommended for close contacts?*

Yes, testing is recommended for people who have been in close contact with an infected person, but no sooner than seven days after the last contact with the person when they were able to spread the virus.

*If a close contact to a case tests negative for COVID-19 during their quarantine, does their quarantine end then, thus allowing them to return to school?*

No. A close contact to a case must complete their quarantine period regardless of test results. Those who test positive would need to complete isolation criteria based on current guidelines.

# BWCS Re-Entry Plan: Frequently Asked Questions for Parents

## School Year 2021-2022

*If a teacher or classmate has close contact for short periods of time with a student positive for COVID-19 throughout the day, would we consider him/her a close contact if the close contact adds up to 15 minutes or more?*

“Close contact” is determined through the case investigation process and is dependent upon each situation. In general, if a teacher or classmate is spending periods of time in close contact (less than 3 feet apart) with a student that add up to greater than 15 minutes throughout the day, the teacher or classmate may be considered a close contact, regardless of whether they were wearing masks.

*If the school can assure 3 feet of social distancing in a classroom, do the students still need to wear a mask in class to avoid being considered a close contact?*

Yes, close contacts are defined as anyone who is within 3 feet of a positive case for greater than 15 minutes during the time a person can spread the disease to others regardless of mask use.

*What is the guidance for a student living in a house with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and is in isolation? Do household members, including the student, need to quarantine?*

Students who live in a house with someone positive for COVID-19 and can separate themselves from the infected person will need to quarantine for 10 days since last exposure to the infected person. If they are unable to separate from the infected person in the household, the student will need to quarantine for the entire isolation period of the family member.

### Social Distancing

*Is it OK for students to throw a football, kick a soccer ball, etc. in PE class if they maintain at least a 3-foot distance?*

Yes. Students can participate in physical activities if they are keeping a 3-foot distance. Wearing a mask is recommended, especially when social distancing cannot be assured at all times. PE activities that can be done outdoors are preferred.