



May 2, 2021

Dear EMS ISD families and staff,

We hope you enjoyed a nice weekend. As your family prepares for school this week, please remember that all students, staff, and visitors are required to **self-screen** for COVID-19 symptoms **each day** before coming to a campus or district facility. If you (staff) or your child is currently **lab-confirmed positive** for COVID-19, is **exhibiting symptoms**, or is **awaiting a test**, please stay home from school tomorrow and report your case to the school if you have not done so already. If after hours, please report using the [Let's Talk system](#). If you (staff) or your child has previously been **notified as a close contact**, please consult your return-to-school date in the letter you received from the district before returning to campus.

EMS ISD is now considering the proper and consistent use of face masks as a mitigating factor when determining required quarantine due to close contact exposure. This means that if both a COVID-19 positive individual and the close contact are properly and consistently masked during the period of exposure, then the exposed individual will not be required to quarantine. Please remind your child to bring a face mask to wear during the instructional day.

Additionally, all adults in Texas ages 18+ are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, with the Pfizer vaccine approved for ages 16+. **Please note that per CDC guidelines, anyone who is fully vaccinated for COVID-19 is now exempt from close contact quarantine requirements.** Our EMS ISD Health Services team has created important information about the COVID-19 vaccine and where to sign up. Please take a moment to review this information [here](#). To go directly to Tarrant County's vaccine registration page, please click [here](#).

If you or your child is experiencing any of the scenarios listed below, **please stay home from school, activities, practices, rehearsals, etc.**, and contact your school nurse for next steps:

- **Experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19**
 - Feeling feverish or have a measured temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Cough
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Shortness of breath
 - Headache
 - Chills, shaking, or exaggerated shivering
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Significant muscle pain or ache
 - Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- **Has had direct exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 (also known as "close contact")**
- **Has been tested for COVID-19 and is awaiting test results**
- **Has received a lab-confirmed positive test result for COVID-19**

Together, we can all help our schools and facilities to remain open and our activities to continue by proactively self-screening each day and following all health safety protocols while on campus. Please visit the [EMS ISD COVID-19 Information Center](#) for additional information. Thank you for your continued partnership and cooperation. Have a healthy week in EMS ISD!

Sincerely,
EMS ISD Health Services