

NESD COVID-19 INFORMATION SHEET

KEY TERMS	
Confirmed Positive	When someone takes a test for COVID-19 and the results indicate that the individual is infected by the virus, he or she is included in the count of confirmed positive cases.
Exposure	When someone is within six feet for more than 15 minutes of an individual who tests positive for COVID-19, he or she is considered to have been exposed and will be notified of the need to quarantine by the Erie County Health Department.
Quarantine	When someone is exposed to another individual who tested positive for COVID-19 he or she must remain separated from others in order to stop the spread of the virus. The Erie County Health Department will contact the individual who must then quarantine for 14 days from the most recent exposure.
Isolate	When someone who is infected with COVID-19 is separated from other individuals to stop the spread of the virus, he or she is isolating. That isolation period must be at least 10 days from the initial onset of symptoms.
Self-monitoring	When someone has been in the vicinity of someone who tests positive for COVID-19, but not within six feet for more than 15 minutes, he or she is encouraged to self-monitor for symptoms. If that individual develops symptoms, he or she should quarantine and be tested.

What will happen if a North East student tests positive for COVID-19?

Either the family or the Erie County Health Department will notify the school of the confirmed positive case. The North East Pandemic Coordinator(s) and nurses will work with Erie County contact tracers to identify anyone who was within six feet for more than 15 minutes of the infected individual. This process will be aided by the seating charts in each classroom and on the school busses. Those exposed individuals will be contacted by the Health Department and given instructions to quarantine. The student who tests positive must isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of symptoms and be fever free for 24 hours without a fever suppressant in order to return to school.

Will the entire class be required to quarantine if a student tests positive for COVID-19?

No. Only those individuals who were within six feet for more than 15 minutes of the infected student will be required to quarantine. Desks throughout the district have been spaced six feet apart to minimize the number of students who will be required to quarantine. If the district sends a student home, the space will be deep cleaned with a disinfectant mister that same day. Depending on guidance from the Erie County Department of Health, we may need to temporarily relocate students to a designated alternate space.

What will happen if/when a staff member tests positive for COVID-19?

This process will be very similar to when a student tests positive for COVID-19. The North East Pandemic Coordinator(s) and nurses will work with the Erie County Health Department to identify anyone who was exposed and needs to quarantine. If the district sends a staff member home, the space will be deep cleaned with a disinfectant mister that same day. Depending on guidance from the Erie County Department of Health, we may need to temporarily relocate classrooms to a designated alternate space. A substitute teacher will be brought in while the teacher is isolating. If a teacher is required to quarantine, he or she may provide instruction from home with someone else in the class to monitor the students.

Is there ever a point when the school may be required to close because of an outbreak?

It is possible but our hope is that it won't be necessary. The district will work closely with the Erie County Department of Health for guidance and recommendations on school closures depending on the community spread in Erie County and the percentage of tests that are positive cases.