



NORTH JUDSON-SAN PIERRE

SCHOOL CORPORATION

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Hello, this is Annette Zupin, Superintendent at North Judson-San Pierre School Corporation with important information about adjustments to the CDC close-contact quarantine guidelines.

First, the CDC has changed the guidelines for individuals designated as a close contact. Close contacts will only need to quarantine a full 10 days from the last date of contact with a positive case, replacing the previously standard 14 days. NJ-SP will begin following this new 10-day quarantine procedure based on the recommendation of the CDC and the Starke County Health Department.

Second, the Indiana Department of Health has identified workers who support the education of pre-school, K-12, college, and adult learning as *Critical Infrastructure Workers*. The Indiana Department of Health understands and realizes the incredible impact close contact quarantining has on schools. When school employees are quarantined for 10-14 days or longer, it makes the successful and safe operation of the school extremely difficult. The *Critical Infrastructure Workers* guidance allows school workers who are identified as close contacts to return to work **IF** they have no symptoms under the following conditions:

- Pre-screening
- Regular monitoring
- Wear a mask for 10 days
- Social distancing
- Cleaning and disinfection of work spaces

Beginning Monday, December 7 at NJ-SP, if a staff member is identified as a close contact and does not demonstrate symptoms they have the option to do the 10-day quarantine or they may return to work, per this new IDH directive. Staff members will be temperature checked each morning and they will continue to wear a mask the entire time at work. Additionally, close contact staff members will remain at least 6 feet apart from colleagues and students and will follow disinfectant protocols already in place. Please note that employees who are symptomatic close contacts or employees who test positive for COVID-19 must still quarantine for 10 days as per recommendations by the CDC and health department.

The health of students and staff remain our utmost priority at NJ-SP. Please know that we will not compromise the health of our students. Symptomatic or positive employees will not enter the building or instruct in-person classes. We are encouraged by these protocol adjustments by the CDC and state health department as they provide us with the best possible opportunity to continue the year safely with in-person classes.