



Monroe County Health Department

Serving the Community since 1921

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July 16, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Greetings from Monroe County Health Department. As we all know COVID-19 has brought unprecedented times and presented unique challenges. In anticipation of questions you may have regarding COVID-19, Monroe County Health Department would like to provide you with guidance on the process we will be using for contacting lab confirmed positive cases and their contacts.

The following procedures will occur once the health department receives notification of a lab confirmed case of COVID-19:

1. Health department staff, from the county in which the lab confirmed case resides, will contact the parent/guardian of that individual within 24-48 hours.
2. Any individual that has a lab confirmed positive test will be directed to isolate at home until the following criteria have been met :
 - a. Have been fever-free for at least 3 days without using medicine that reduces fever, **and**
 - b. Symptoms have improved for at least 3 days, **and**
 - c. At least 10 days have passed since symptom onset. If the individual who tests positive is without symptoms, the 10 days will start from the date tested.
3. The health department will work with school staff and the parent/guardian to obtain the names and contact information of those individuals who may be considered close contacts of a lab confirmed case of COVID-19. Health department staff will then reach out to identified contacts to discuss quarantine recommendations. Please be assured that no identifiable information of the lab confirmed case will be shared.

A close contact is defined as someone who:

- a. Had direct physical contact with the lab confirmed case (e.g., hug, kiss, hand shake).
- b. Was within 6 feet of the lab confirmed case for more than 15 minutes or increments totaling 15 minutes.
- c. Had contact with the lab confirmed case's respiratory secretions (e.g., coughed/sneezed on, contact with dirty tissue, sharing a drinking glass, food or towels or other personal items).
- d. Stayed overnight for at least one night in a household with a lab confirmed case.

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4. Health department staff will work with the school to evaluate potential risk of exposure within the school setting.
5. Health department staff will work closely with the parent/guardian in determining when the lab confirmed case is considered well and able to return to school.


Monroe County Health Department looks forward to a safe and healthy school year.

For more information, please visit the Monroe County Health Department website or our Facebook page.

<http://healthymonroecowi.org/covid-19/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MonroeCountyHealthDept/>

Stay safe. Stay resilient.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon L. Nelson".

Sharon. L. Nelson
Director/Health Officer