

WHITE RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
"Home of the Wolverines"

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February 18, 2022

Good afternoon. We have BIG NEWS to report today...but first, our numbers as of noon today are as follows:

WRV ES: 3 positive cases and 13 close contacts;

WRV MS: 0 positive cases and 0 close contacts;

WRV HS: 0 positive case and 2 close contacts;

STAFF: 1 positive case and 0 close contacts.

Numbers are obviously trending down.

THE STATE HAS RELEASED NEW GUIDANCE AND THE CHANGES WILL HELP GREATLY WITH HOW WE APPROACH THIS SITUATION. EFFECTIVE 2/22/2022:

- **Schools no longer will be required to conduct contact tracing or report positive cases to IDOH.**
- **Schools no longer will need to quarantine students who are exposed to a positive COVID-19 case, regardless of vaccination status or whether the school requires masks.**
- **Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 should isolate for five days and may return on Day 6 if they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication so long as symptoms are improving, according to [guidance](#) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Individuals should wear a mask through Day 10 any time they are around others inside their homes or in public. It will be the positive student's responsibility to contact anyone who might be a close contact and the close contact's parents should monitor for symptoms.**

If any school gets to a 10% absence rate because of Covid, the health department recommends that we go back to previous protocols.

THESE STAY IN EFFECT:

1. If a student tests positive for Covid (regardless of vaccination status):

***The student must stay home for 5 days. If symptoms are resolving after 5 days, the student may return to school on Day 6, but MUST fully mask between days 6 and 10. Students may participate in ECA events, but must wear a mask.**

2. The mask mandate for transportation stays in effect until further notice. It is a Federal Mandate.

The Greene County Health Department has instructed our school nurses to go back to the protocols that were in place prior to March, 2020...meaning this situation is now to be treated similar to the flu.

The last two years has been very difficult for all us...health care workers, educators, parents, and students. It looks like the pandemic is winding down for now. Thank you to everyone for working with us through this stressful situation. I would especially like to thank our school nurses! Now, let's continue working together to get our kids caught up and where they need to be academically, socially, and emotionally.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bob Hacker