

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 13

Student Services and Special Education
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February 9, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

During the 2020-2021 school year, we have been following the guidelines outlined in the CT State Department of Education's [Addendum 5 to Adapt, Advance, Achieve: Connecticut's Plan to Learn and Grow Together](#). Addendum 5 was updated in early January to reflect changes by our CT Department of Health and the CDC in regards to quarantine length.

Continuing to adhere to these guidelines will help us provide a safer and healthier community for everyone in RSD13. **In order to maintain the privacy of your student and family, please communicate any illness or quarantine concerns directly with your school nurse or the Covid Health Liaison.** Parents are asked to keep students at home if they are feeling sick, exhibit any symptoms associated with COVID-19, or have had close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19.

The following information should be helpful as we continue through this school year.

Student Attendance Procedures:

ParentSquare COVID-19 Health Screening:

Please complete the screening for your student everyday that they are scheduled to attend school in person. Please note that if you have more than one student in the district, and you choose the select all option, all of the screenings will read the same; if one of your students has a headache, for example, they will all have that symptom listed in the screening. If you happen to enter something in error when completing the screen and your student is coming to school, please notify your school nurse.

Reporting Absences:

If your child will not be attending school, please contact your school absence line. If your student is absent due to illness with any covid like symptoms (as outlined below in this letter), has come in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and needs to quarantine, or is out for COVID-19 testing, **please contact your school nurse directly.** If you are traveling to an area outside of NY, NJ or RI, please let us know. We follow the guidelines as posted on the [CT Travel Advisory](#). If testing out of a travel quarantine, a copy of the result must be submitted prior to returning to school.

Illness:

Anyone with the following symptoms during the school day will be isolated and dismissed for follow up with their healthcare provider:

- Fever of 100.4 degrees or higher
- New, unexplainable cough
- Shortness of breath*
- Difficulty breathing*
- Bluish lips or face
- Loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea

- Vomiting
- Or Signs/symptoms of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) which can include:
 - Rash
 - Conjunctivitis (Red eyes)
 - Red, cracked lips
 - Swelling of the hands or feet
 - Joint Pain
 - Dizziness
 - Vision changes
 - Severe headache
 - Extreme fatigue

**If the student is an asthmatic, the expectation is that these symptoms would be relieved with the use of an inhaler (with spacer). If these symptoms are not relieved within 10-15 minutes, your student will be referred to their health care provider for evaluation.*

Additionally, a combination of any two of the following symptoms will result in dismissal for follow up with their healthcare provider:

- Headache (unless diagnosis of Migraine or other reason, is already in medical chart)
- Sneezing
- Congestion with either a stuffy or runny nose
- Fatigue
- Chills (in the absence of fever)
- Nausea
- Stomach pain/cramps
- Sore throat
- Muscle or body aches

Return to School:

In accordance with the CT Department of Health Guidelines, students who are symptomatic as outlined above, must provide an MD note with an alternative diagnosis, or a negative covid test, prior to return. Any documentation should be forwarded to the school nurse or if requested, the COVID Health Liaison/ District Clinical Nurse Coordinator. All students must be free of symptoms, for 24 hours, without intervention, prior to returning to school.

Thank you for helping us keep our community healthy. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Pamela Branciforte

Pamela M. Branciforte, RN School Nurse, Coginchaug Regional High School/ District Clinical Nurse Coordinator/ COVID Liaison **Work: (860) 349-7212 or Cell: (860) 414-2815**

Strong Middle School: Anne Juncadella (860) 349-7257
Middlefield Memorial School: Frances Ciarleglio (860) 349-7429
Lyman Elementary School: Ann Bourland (860) 349-7241
Brewster Elementary School: Deanna Loso (860) 349-7228