



Family message on COVID quarantine September 29, 2021

To: Everett Public Schools Families
From: Ian B. Saltzman
Regarding: Updated COVID quarantine protocol

Good afternoon families,

I hope you are enjoying the start of school as much as we are. Fall is definitely in the air and we look forward to all the things a new season brings.

While it has been wonderful to have students back in our schools full time, it has been complex to manage the challenges of contact tracing while continuing to provide student learning during quarantine periods. We know the last few weeks have been equally challenging for some of our families as well. Thank you for being good partners with us as we navigate this together.

Modified Quarantine for Close Contacts

Last week, the Snohomish Health District (SHD) shared they would now permit the duration of quarantine for close contact individuals to be modified, within the parameters of the [requirements for K-12 schools established by the Washington State Department of Health](#). Previously, SHD required unvaccinated staff and students who were identified as close contacts to quarantine for 14 days. Now, they are permitting school districts to shorten the quarantine period to 10 days from exposure, as long as there are no symptoms.

To minimize students' time away from the classroom, Everett Public Schools is adopting the 10 day quarantine period for unvaccinated close contacts. **Therefore, starting Monday, September 27, if you are/were identified as a close contact and are not vaccinated, you only need to quarantine for 10 days, provided no symptoms develop.** If you are vaccinated you do not need to quarantine, only watch for symptoms. We will also support those families who prefer to keep their students home for the 14 day quarantine. Close contacts identified prior to September 27 must still quarantine for 14 days. If your child was quarantined in the last two days you will be contacted with a new quarantine date.

Knowing When to Return to School

We know it can be complicated to navigate the details of when your child can return to school. We have modified our [Return to School Flow Chart](#) sharing a variety of circumstances. This can also be found on our COVID web page under the "Our District" tab.

Visit the COVID page for frequently asked questions, our COVID dashboard, and the family COVID handbook. Thank you again for supporting your child's education and for being patient as we adjust to changing health parameters.

Be safe and be well,

Dr. Ian B. Saltzman
Superintendent