



**EVERY STUDENT.
EVERY DAY.**

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August 19, 2021

Memo to our Community:

As we near the end of just the first week of school, we want to share with you some recent updates. The COVID-19 virus is beginning to surge again in our county. Recent cases are on the rise and alarmingly many of the cases are in young children. We are seeing cases in the district at this time. We are aware of cases in six of our 11 schools.

We have followed the proper protocol provided by the health department and contacted those in close contact. As part of our health and safety plan, the Health Department requires a 10-day quarantine for anyone who may have had close contact with an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19; close contact is considered for an individual within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more. The district has worked with the Health Department and our Director of Nursing to identify the staff and students in close contact based on class rosters.

- If you DO NOT receive a notification from the District by the end of today, then your child has NOT been identified as a close contact and will not be required to quarantine.
- If you do receive a notification from the District by the end of today, then your child HAS been identified as a close contact and will be required to quarantine for 10 days.

Because all individuals riding busses are required to wear masks due to federal mandate, no one will be quarantined due to riding busses. If a person has been identified to quarantine but can provide proof they have been fully vaccinated (two weeks after last dose) or proof of a positive COVID-19 test within the past 90 days, they will be immediately removed from quarantine and allowed to return to school. Additionally, quarantined individuals may be removed from quarantine if they test negative with a PCR test on day 5 after exposure and may then return to school on day 7.

For our students who are required to quarantine, our teachers will continue to support their student's education during this quarantine.

We once again implore our community to use varied mitigation strategies. We highly recommend the use of masks, hand washing, and sanitizers to help combat the spread of this very contagious virus and its variants. Please do not hesitate to call the district with any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Montezuma-Cortez School District RE-1 Health and Safety Team