

Good afternoon, Peace Family,

By now, you should have had a chance to watch Friday's video from Pastor Erik regarding the updates to our COVID-19 mitigation protocols that went into effect today at Peace Lutheran School. If you haven't, I've attached it again to this message.

As Pastor Erik stated in his video, the number of COVID cases in our community remains high. However, families now have an option that had been previously unavailable, with the approval of vaccinations for children 5 and older. While we have lifted the mask requirement at Peace, we do want to be sure that our families are informed about what happens not only if your child tests positive for COVID, but also what happens when a student in your child's class tests positive.

The protocols from the Saginaw County Health Department, which we are required to follow, vary based on an individual's situation (masked vs. unmasked, vaccinated vs. unvaccinated, proximity to the positive case). Below we have provided a Q&A that we hope helps you make an informed decision when it comes to your family's health.

While we are talking specifically here about COVID, we must note that instances of other illnesses are on the rise in our community as well. Please continue to keep your students home if they are experiencing fever, vomiting or diarrhea, per student handbook policy. It is also important that we work together – at home and in school – to promote good hygiene practices such as washing your hands regularly, and sneezing and coughing into sleeves. This is simply good practice and helps us keep each other healthy.

As always, our No. 1 priority at Peace is protecting your children while continuing to offer in-person instruction. We thank you for doing all you can to keep your children and their peers safe and healthy. If you find you still have questions not answered here, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

**Q. What happens if **my child tests positive** for COVID-19?**

**A.** If your child tests positive for COVID, call the Peace school office at 792-2581. He or she must isolate/quarantine\* for 10 days. Your child may return to school after the 10 days as long as they are symptom-free for 24 hours. They must wear a mask for a four-day minimum after their return. \*See quarantine guidelines below.

**Q. What happens (to my child) if **my child's classmate is COVID positive** and **my child is unvaccinated** and **does NOT regularly wear a mask** in school?**

**A.** If your child is exposed to a positive case, is unvaccinated and not masked, they will need to quarantine\* if **less than 6 feet** for a cumulative period of 15 minutes from the person who has tested positive.

**Q. What happens if **my child's classmate is COVID positive** and **my child is fully vaccinated** but **does NOT regularly wear a mask** in school?**

**A.** If your child is fully vaccinated (or has tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 90 days) and unmasked, they do not need to quarantine, but must get tested 3-5 days after exposure, monitor for symptoms and wear a mask until a negative test result.

**Q.** What happens if **my child's classmate is COVID positive** and **my child is unvaccinated but regularly wears a mask** in school?

**A.** If your child is exposed to a positive case, is unvaccinated and has worn their mask properly, and so has the person who tested positive, they will need to quarantine\* if they have been exposed and are **less than 3 feet** from the person for a cumulative period of 15 minutes.

**Q.** What happens if **my child's classmate is COVID positive** and my child is **fully vaccinated and regularly wears a mask** in school?

**A.** If your child is fully vaccinated (or has tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 90 days) and masked, they do not need to quarantine, but must get tested 3-5 days after exposure, monitor for symptoms and wear a mask until a negative test result.

**\*Quarantine guidelines** (for all exposed students or staff, as mentioned in the scenarios above), as directed by the Saginaw County Health Department:

For 10 days while continuing to wear a mask indoors and monitor symptoms for 14 days.

– or –

For 7 days with a negative PCR test taken 5 days after exposure, while continuing to wear a mask indoors, and monitor symptoms for 14 days.

Thank you for doing all you can to help us keep our students in school. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

In Christ's service,

Mr. Keith Trent  
Director of School Ministries  
Peace Lutheran School

Pastor Erik's Video from Friday, Nov. 5:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QKbp6DeaPfQ>