

Welcome back to school!

We are so excited to have everyone back in school! We are deeply committed to keeping each child and staff member healthy and safe! COVID-19 guidelines have significantly changed for this year, as the public health emergency ended in May of this year. Please take a look at [Oregon Health Authority \(OHA\)](#) and the [Oregon Department of Education \(ODE\)](#) for specific information.

Here are the changes to expect:

COVID-19 is no longer a reportable disease and no longer requires five days of isolation. This means that someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 does not have to report their positive test to the local public health authority. Schools also no longer have to report positive COVID-19 tests to their local public health authority. **People who are ill with COVID-19 should stay home until they are fever-free for 24 hours and their symptoms are improving.** A five-day isolation period is no longer recommended for individuals infected with COVID-19. Individuals with COVID-19 should also avoid contact with people at increased risk for severe disease and consider masking for 10 days to reduce the spread of the disease. For more information on when students and staff should stay home from school when sick, please see [OHA and ODE's updated symptom-based exclusion chart](#). **Effective June 17, 2023, our teachers, staff and volunteers will no longer be required to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination or have a medical or religious exception on file in order to work or volunteer in our schools.** Being up to date on COVID-19 vaccines continues to offer significant protection against serious illness and hospitalization.

Help us keep your child in school by talking to them about HAND WASHING! It is extremely important to know the proper way to wash our hands.

Please keep students home when they are ill, see "When Should A Child Stay Home/be sent Home From School?" flyer below.

Thank you!
Betsy Brooks, RN
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