

BAXTER SPRINGS SCHOOLS, USD 508

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David Pendergraft, *Superintendent*
Carrie Oakes, *Clerk, BOE*
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January 18, 2022

The following protocols within the Baxter Springs USD #508 Test to Stay and Learn are being implemented to remain consistent with current Kansas Department of Health and Cherokee County Health Department guidelines....

- Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 must be isolated for a minimum of ~~10~~ **5** days after the onset of symptoms or after the sample collection for asymptomatic individuals. The individual must be asymptomatic (or demonstrating significant symptom improvement) and fever-free for ~~72~~ **24** hours without medication prior to ending the isolation period.
Individuals who are asymptomatic (or with improving symptoms) may return to onsite school activities as early as the 6th day under the following additional conditions...
 - They test negative for COVID using an antigen test on the day they return.
 - If the Day 6 (or after) test is positive, individuals may return the following day to test to stay.
 - Individuals who return to onsite instruction will continue to properly wear masks for the duration of the original 10 day isolation period during all activities.
- Because of the high probability individuals in public spaces are subject to widespread exposure and transmission, KDHE has provided guidelines for suspension of contact tracing in school settings. As such, the Baxter Springs USD #508 will
 - Suspend the practice of identifying close contacts in school settings.
 - Suspend the practice of providing notification of specific incidents of exposure.
 - What does this mean for you as parents and guardians? Beginning Tuesday, Jan. 18, our district will no longer notify families whose child may have been in contact, through classroom or extracurricular settings, with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19
- Parents
 - Regularly monitor your children for symptoms of COVID-19 disease.
 - Do not send your child to school if they are sick or if they test positive. (see information above regarding individuals who have tested positive)
 - Notify the school if your child tests positive.
 - Tests will continue to be available at the school for staff and students M-F 6:45-7:45 AM and M-TH 3:45-4:45 PM at the district office.
 - Individuals displaying symptoms consistent with COVID-19 will be required to test to participate in school activities.
 - You can monitor the Covid Tracker for up-to-date numbers in your child's building. Go to www.usd508.org and click on COVID link.

In short...if you feel ill, don't come to school. If your child is ill, don't send them to school.

Sincerely,

David Pendergraft, Superintendent USD 508