



*South Buffalo Charter School*  
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January 10, 2022

Dear SBCS Parents, Students and Staff,

On January 7, 2022, The ECDOH confirmed changes that take effect immediately to guidance regarding the isolation and quarantine periods for COVID-19. As a reminder, the *isolation* period occurs when an individual tests positive for COVID-19. The *quarantine* period occurs when an individual has been identified as a close contact of a person who is positive for COVID-19.

The following changes pertain to students and staff:

If the individual is vaccinated, which includes 2 weeks post booster, and identified as a close contact:

- The individual is not required to quarantine when identified as close contact.
- The individual must monitor for symptoms and wear a well-fitting mask while around others for 10 days after the last date of exposure.
- If possible, the individual should test at day 5 with a PCR test or antigen test.
- If symptoms appear, quarantine and seek testing. In this situation, quarantine would end on the date of a negative test. If positive, isolation would occur as noted below.
- Those fully vaccinated and infected with COVID-19 within the last 90 days do not quarantine.

If the individual is (a) not fully vaccinated or (b) is fully vaccinated and is eligible for a booster, but has not yet gotten the booster, and is NOT experiencing symptoms, and is identified as a close contact:

- The individual must quarantine for 5 days.
- Individuals **MUST wear a well-fitting mask for an additional 5 days and can return to school/work.**

If the individual is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms OR if asymptomatic but tests positive for COVID-19 (**vaccinated or unvaccinated**):

- Isolation for that individual is now 5 DAYS, not the original stated 10 days.
- If asymptomatic, then at the end of 5 days or symptoms are resolving, the isolation period ends.
- Individuals **MUST wear a well-fitting mask for an additional 5 days and can return to school/work.**
- Individuals who cannot wear a well-fitting mask must remain in isolation for a full 10 days.
- If symptoms develop during the 5-day quarantine period, please remain in quarantine and secure a negative test in order to return to school earlier than day 10.

The iHealth Rapid Test Kit that was sent home on January 5, 2022, is for a specific purpose. The accompanying letter stated that they are for testing students against the possibility of having COVID-19. A child should be showing symptoms and/or feeling ill before a decision is made to administer. As always, this is a fluid situation as we receive updated information from the ECDOH and NYSDOH on a regular basis. For more information please visit:

[https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/01/nys\\_updated\\_isolation\\_quarantine\\_guidance\\_01042022.pdf](https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/01/nys_updated_isolation_quarantine_guidance_01042022.pdf)

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

David Ehrle  
Superintendent  
South Buffalo Charter School

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*Making it Happen!*