
[admin_super] Updated COVID information

From : Dawn Strong <strong_d@4j.lane.edu>

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Sender : admin_super <admin_super-bounces@4j.lane.edu>**Subject :** [admin_super] Updated COVID information**To :** admin super <admin_super@4j.lane.edu>

Good afternoon,

The purpose of this email is to provide information regarding changes in COVID-19 management that was shared by the Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Health Authority last week. Joy Maxwell, the district's Student Health Services Supervisor, has shared this information with district nurses and health assistants. Additionally, information regarding Synergy sick codes and quarantine guidelines for student absences will be shared with secretaries next week.

From ODE/OHA: Effective [May 11](#), the five-day period of isolation for those infected with COVID-19 is no longer recommended for the general population, including people in K-12 education settings. Oregon public health officials believe widespread population immunity, due to vaccination and repeated infections, means most COVID-19 infections are now likely asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic, and the five-day isolation period is doing little to reduce transmission. The recommendation for the general population is to stay home until fever free for 24 hours and symptoms are improving; to avoid contact with individuals at increased risk for severe disease, including older adults and those with underlying medical conditions; and to consider masking for 10 days.

COVID is being moved back into the communicable disease guidance. Over the next two weeks, ODE/OHA is working on updating the communicable disease guidance; the Investigative Guidelines are also being updated to reflect these changes.

4J Staff and students

Please continue to submit the [Employee COVID report](#) when you are notified of an employee who has tested positive.

The notification process for staff will remain the same as it has been and I will continue to follow up with the employee and their supervisor. This will remain in effect through the end of the school year as we have agreements with our employee groups (through June 30) regarding emergency pay for employees who do not have available leave. We will follow the guidance from ODE/OHA to stay home until fever-free for 24 hours and symptoms are improving. Employees will still be required to mask upon return; the 10 days will be determined from the symptom onset date.

Joy Maxwell has communicated and shared this information with district nursing staff and health assistants. We currently have two health assistants who contact the families

of students when they report a positive to the school. The contact with those families will continue through the end of the school year and the updated guidance will be shared, along with information about when the student(s) may return to school. We will continue to share the masking recommendation (not requirement) for students as we have done throughout the year.

On-site testing

From ODE: COVID-19 diagnostic testing resources (e.g., Abbott BinaxNOW test kits) will remain available through the 2023-24 academic year. iHealth self-tests will remain available until the current supply is exhausted. The screening testing program in Oregon's K-12 schools will end [July 31](#), 2023.

Last week, at least one case of iHealth tests (take home tests) were delivered to every school. This has depleted our supply of take home tests and I do not know if we will be able to get any for the fall. ODE recommends that we have Binax NOW tests kits on-site for the 23-24 school year as insurance companies are no longer required to pay for COVID tests and the federal government will stop sending out free tests. This summer we will order test kits for all district sites to have at the start of the school year. We will also have BinaxNOW test kits on site this summer for employees and students in summer programs.

Vaccination Requirements for teachers, staff and school volunteers

From ODE: Effective [June 17](#), the COVID-19 vaccination requirement for public and private school teachers, staff and school volunteers (OAR [333-019-1030](#)) will be lifted. This means that after [June 16](#) teachers, school staff and volunteers in schools will no longer have to provide proof of vaccination or have a valid medical or religious exception on file to be in direct or indirect contact with students. Being up to date on COVID-19 vaccines continues to offer significant protection against serious illness and hospitalization.

Effective June 17, information regarding a person's vaccination status will no longer be requested and will be removed from all employment application information. The Risk Management and School Safety Department will make these changes to the volunteer application process as well.

If you have any questions please let me know.

Thank you,
Dawn

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