



401 W. Chicago St. · Buchanan, MI 49107
(269) 695-8401 · Fax (269) 695-8450 · www.buchananschools.com

January 24, 2022

Dear Families and Staff,

Buchanan Community Schools learned today that *2 students attending Ottawa Elementary School, 3 students attending Buchanan Middle School, and 2 students and 2 staff members at Buchanan High School have tested positive for COVID-19.* The students and staff are in isolation. Due to federal health privacy laws, information regarding their identity cannot be released. Please respect their privacy during this difficult time.

All families directly impacted by this news have been contacted by either Buchanan Community Schools staff or the county health department.

Below you will find the quarantine/isolation guidelines:

Isolation Guidelines (for students/staff who have symptoms or have tested positive):

Students, teachers & staff who test positive for COVID-19 and/or display COVID-19 symptoms should isolate regardless of vaccination status:

- Isolate at home for days 0-5 days (day “0” is day symptoms begin or day test was taken for students, teachers & staff who do not have symptoms); monitor for symptoms days 6-10. Return to school or work if symptoms improve days 6-10 while wearing a well-fitted mask **or**
- Stay home for 10 days if unwilling/unable to wear a mask.

Quarantine Guidelines (for close contacts):

- Fully Vaccinated students/staff exposed to COVID-19 do not need to quarantine unless they are experiencing symptoms
- Unvaccinated close contacts in a masked setting exposed to COVID-19 do not need to quarantine unless they are experiencing symptoms
- Unvaccinated close contacts in an unmasked setting exposed to COVID-19 will need to (choose an option):
 - **QUARANTINE*** - Days 1-5 and test on Day 5. Student should continue masking for Days 6-10 **OR**
 - **TEST TO STAY** - Student will test every other day for six days following exposure and wear a mask for Days 1-10 **OR**
 - **MASK TO STAY*** - When testing is unavailable and student has no symptoms, they may stay in school if they correctly and consistently wear a well-fitted mask (1) **OR**
 - **HOME QUARANTINE** - Student will quarantine at home for full 10 days

TEST TO STAY: test every other day for 6 days (days 3 and 5) following the exposure and consistent and correct use of a [well-fitted mask](#). Test to Stay COVID testing is provided at Berrien RESA Front Lobby located at 711 Saint Joseph Ave., Berrien Springs, MI 49103; Monday - Friday 6:30am-7:45am, no appointment needed. Store bought rapid tests are also allowed.

Please remember, if a student or staff member is sick they should not come to school. If they are sick and have taken a COVID-19 test, they are not to return to school until the results are in. If the results are

positive, they will need to quarantine. If a student or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19, the student or staff member are to immediately be excluded from school and are to quarantine.

We will continue to provide updates as needed. You can access all of the district's related communication by visiting our website at www.buchananschools.com. If you have questions, please contact your building administrator.

Thank you for your continued support. By working together, we will get through these challenging times. As you know, the well-being of our students, staff, and families is our number one priority.

Please join me in sending healing thoughts to our students and staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patricia Robinson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Patricia Robinson
Superintendent