

August 25, 2020

To School District of Marshfield Families and Staff:

With the start-up of the new school year just one week away, I wanted to take this opportunity to address the important topic of student health screenings. As we embark upon a school year that will see a continuation of challenges surrounding COVID-19, it is important for parents and staff to understand we will all need to stay proactive and remain diligent about dealing with and addressing illnesses. This is particularly true when it comes to students and staff who present signs and symptoms that are consistent with COVID-19. Notably, parents will need to be prepared for much higher occurrences of their child(ren) needing to stay home or being sent home from school due to illness-related precautions. As such, it is strongly recommended that you plan now for how you might address an increased frequency of your child(ren's) needing to be at home.

The school district continues to work closely with the Wood County Health Department (WCHD) in our preparations for reopening schools. In addition to safety and operations guidance, the WCHD has provided the school district with guidelines regarding when students should stay home due to concerns associated with COVID-19. Please review this [letter from Sue Kunferman](#), Wood County Health Officer.

The WCHD guidelines and information provided to the school district is based on guidance received from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), including the following document released by the DHS last week:

[Guidelines for Prevention, Investigation, and Control of COVID-19 Outbreaks in K-12 Schools in Wisconsin](#)

Also attached to this email are a few specific resources (from the abovementioned DHS document) that delineate when students and staff should stay home from school, as well as specify when students and staff may return to school following a [COVID-19 quarantine or isolation](#). I encourage parents to pay particular attention to the [COVID-19 Health Screening Checklist for CHILDREN](#) document to familiarize yourself with the criteria the school district will use to determine when a child will be sent home from school. This health screening checklist should also be utilized by parents as a home-screening tool for identifying when it would be best for you to keep your child(ren) at home.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dr. Ryan Christianson
Superintendent