



As North Cedar Community School District adapts to the challenges presented by COVID-19, we want to inform you of what to expect if a COVID-19 case is identified within our school district. Please be aware that in an effort to be compliant with privacy laws, we will not be sending district-wide notifications regarding positive cases or potential exposures. Rather, families and staff who are affected will be contacted individually and given instructions. Mass notifications will only occur if it is determined that there is an outbreak of several cases and we are unable to specifically determine close contacts.

Cedar County Public Health staff investigates every COVID-19 case residing in the county to determine exposure and to notify close contacts. When a case involves school staff or students, Cedar County Public Health may work with the school nurse to determine close contacts of the positive case. "Close contact" is identified as being within 6 feet of the confirmed COVID-19 case for more than 15 minutes during the time they were contagious. All close contacts will promptly be contacted and instructed to quarantine for 14 days from their last exposure. This call may be received from school or public health staff and must be answered as soon as possible to minimize the risk of additional spread. If you are not contacted by the school or the public health department, your child has not been identified as a close contact and may continue with the normal school routine.

All identifying information related to any Public Health investigation must be kept confidential in order to protect privacy. A family may choose to publicly share their own information, but this will not come from school or public health staff. Also, please remember that there are many illnesses and other circumstances which can result in the absence of a student or staff member, but do not necessarily indicate that a person has tested positive for COVID-19.

Our response to COVID-19 continues to evolve. We will keep you informed of any changes to this procedure as we are provided with new guidance from the local, state, and federal level. Thank you for your continued understanding.