

Dear Country Day Students, Parents, Faculty and Staff,

It's rewarding to be part of a community that is committed to protecting each other, and as we begin the new year, we are incredibly grateful for all the ways you have incorporated healthy habits into your routines. Thank you for making choices to stay home and limit your holiday celebrations to help Country Day stay healthy. Socializing remotely, wearing masks, distancing, and constant handwashing won't be a part of our lives forever, but for the coming months we must remain vigilant.

## Quarantine Guidance

On December 30, Governor DeWine announced "updated" guidance (based on preliminary results of a recent study) for Covid-19 exposures in the classroom.

- *Students and teachers exposed to a Covid-positive person in school are no longer required to quarantine as long as the exposure occurred in a classroom setting and all students/teachers were wearing masks and following other appropriate protocols (e.g., social distancing).*

While the guidance above was labeled as updated, we feel the guidance remains analogous with [our current policy for quarantining](#) due to close contact (i.e., within six feet for > 15 minutes or more cumulatively). **Students and staff will continue to be instructed to quarantine for 10 days if they are in close contact with a Covid-positive individual**, excluding individuals who have had Covid in the past three months and have provided the school with their test result.

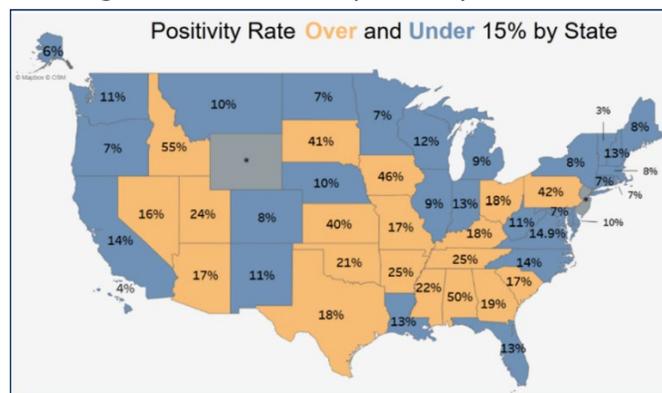
Additionally, based on the guidance of our [Medical Advisory Board](#), **we will not permit a shortened 7-day quarantine with a day-5 PCR test that comes back negative**. The chance of an exposure yielding a positive infection remains in the double digits through day 10; chances of becoming positive drops to single digits after day 10.

## Faster Covid Test Results

Our experience indicates that Cincinnati Children's Hospital has the fastest turnaround time for Covid test results for both children and adults. If you want to use Children's for a future Covid test, have your healthcare specialist use this fax number (513-636-3918) to place a Covid test order.

## Ohio Travel Advisory

Each week, [Ohio updates its list of states reporting testing rates of 15% or higher](#). The state advises those entering Ohio after traveling to a state with a positivity rate of 15% or higher to quarantine.



## Covid-19 Vaccine for CCDS Employees

Hamilton County Public Health has begun its phased vaccination program. School personnel qualify for vaccines during phase 1b as part of the goal to reach adults who work in schools that are open for in-person instruction by March 1. We are awaiting details from the county for the deployment of the vaccines for our faculty and staff.

As members of the Rapid Response Team, we are enthusiastic about getting vaccinated since it will keep us healthy while also helping to bring the pandemic to an end.

**Ohio's Vaccination Program**  
- A Phased Approach

**During Phase 1 vaccine supply will be limited.**  
Vaccine administration will be focused on reaching critical groups.

**PHASE 1B** →

**GOAL: Save Lives**

- Ohioans age 65 and older
- Those living with severe congenital, developmental, or early-onset medical disorders

**GOAL: In-Person School by March 1st**

- Adults who work in schools

All available vaccines will be administered to those who **choose** to receive it.

OHIO TOGETHER OHIO MIKE DEWINE GOVERNOR OF OHIO Ohio Department of Health coronavirus.ohio.gov

## CCDS Covid Case Reporting

This week, we do not have any positive cases to report, but we are aware of seven Covid cases (five students and two teachers) involving symptom onset dates or exposures that occurred before students returned to campus. Because the cases occurred off campus during break, we aren't required to report this information to the state as part of our weekly case load, but we wanted to keep you apprised of all cases involving CCDS community members. Click here for the [CCDS Covid Dashboard](#).

It's great to be back on campus to start a brand new year. Stay safe!

The CCDS Rapid Response Team

Tina Moulin, Ashley Ward (Co-Chairs)  
Dennis Coyle, Jackie Fiora, Theresa Hirschauer

**CHALLENGE YOURSELF. BE YOURSELF.**

**#WeAreCountryDay**