

Dear Parents,

This letter is written to inform you of some rather significant changes to the **Pierre School District's COVID-19 Back to School Plan**. We appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we continue to adjust to changing circumstances and information throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and make every effort possible to safely keep students at school.

The changes outlined below will be implemented beginning Monday, November 2.

○ **T.F. Riggs High School and Georgia Morse Middle School:**

- T.F. Riggs High School will move away from the hybrid schedule and all students who are not enrolled in the district's online option will return to in person instruction 5 days per week.
- Masks will continue to be required whenever social distancing cannot be achieved, this includes at all times in hallways and common areas.
- The quarantine process will be revised to allow students who would otherwise be identified as a close contact at school or a school activity due to being within 6 feet of a COVID positive individual for more than 15 minutes to remain at school and in school activities as long as all of the following criteria are met:

1. The student is asymptomatic, and

2. The student, along with the identified COVID positive student, was wearing a mask at the time of exposure,

○ **Students identified as close contacts must adhere to the following requirements while at school:**

1. Wear a mask at all times during school and activities. Masks may be removed during mealtimes and if necessary, during physical exertion.

2. Social distance whenever possible,

3. Agree to COVID-19 symptom checks at school each morning and mid-day;

and

4. Report any COVID-19 related symptoms immediately, and if symptomatic the student will be required to leave school, quarantine and consult with their medical provider about being tested for COVID-19.

● **Kennedy, Jefferson, and Buchanan Elementary Schools**

○ Masks will remain strongly encouraged

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3. Agree to COVID-19 symptom checks at school each morning and mid-day;

and

4. Report any COVID-19 related symptoms immediately, and if symptomatic the student will be required to leave school, quarantine and consult with their medical provider about being tested for COVID-19.

Quarantine changes discussed above only apply to students considered close contacts due to exposure at school and school activities. Close contacts due to exposure occurring outside of school will continue to follow SD Department of Health directives to quarantine.