

October 26, 2021



As we enter November, we also are entering the cold and flu season. Everyone is aware that the symptoms are similar to Covid. How does a parent know what their child has? How does the school nurse know what the student has? Mostly, we do not. Testing is the only true way to determine that and many people do not want to test. Many parents will keep their children home when they have a stuffy nose or a stomach ache, many will send their children to school. These ill children in school will be sent to the nurse's office. How does she know what the student has? She doesn't!!! Some of these children will return to class, some will be sent home. This will result in a potential covid case remaining in the classroom.

So what can we do??? We can all work together to do our very best. That is all each of us should ask of one another.

In the world of Covid and schools, what does that mean? Does that mean keeping a sick child home? Does that mean the nurse should send home every child with a runny nose? No matter what choices each of us makes, let's just know that each of us is doing our very best to do the right thing. We may not all agree, but together we can do this. We can keep our schools open. That is the one goal each and every one of us truly wishes for. If we all do our small part, we can make it happen.

This year we are asking parents to err on the side of keeping your child home if they have COVID symptoms:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Please watch for exciting news in the next two weeks about a vaccination clinic for students 5-11 years old, new air filtration systems in all classrooms, and remember all students can be tested every Monday at school at no cost. We CAN DO THIS.