COVID-19 FAQs (Revised 3/3/22)

Q. What protocols do the district follow for positive cases and self-quarantine situations?
A: The district follows the guidance provided by the Louisiana Department of Health.
Link: Isolation-and-Quarantine-Pre-K-12-School-and-Non-School-Based-Sites-2.3.22-1.pdf

Q: Has the district updated its COVID-19 school health and safety guidelines?
A: Yes COVID-19 School Health & Safety Guidelines

Q: What are the return-to-school guidelines for students?
A: Please click on the following link: EBRPSS Return to School Criteria for Students.pdf

Q: Should my child stay home if they are ill?
A: Students, teachers and staff should stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness. Individuals who have a fever greater than or equal to 100.4 degrees or other signs of illness will not be admitted to school.

Q: Will my child have to wear a mask at school/bus?
A: All Pre-K-12 students must wear a mask while on the bus. While at school, students in grades K-12 are required to wear masks, and it is recommended that students ages 2-4 wear masks, if tolerated.

Q: What will happen when my child arrives at school?
A: Student temperatures will be checked upon arrival. They will be provided with hand sanitizer as they enter and exit any room throughout the school. Schools will limit entry and exit points to promote physical distancing.

Q: What will happen in the classroom?
A: Students will be given hand sanitizer upon entry and exit of the classroom; desks will be sanitized between each class period and students will be seated 3-6 feet apart. Adults will
maintain 6 feet of distance between themselves and students. All shared materials will be sanitized between each use. If anyone shows signs of sickness, they will be escorted to the school’s isolation room.

Q: How will my child transition to new places in the building?
A: The school will have directional markers throughout the building to facilitate a one-way flow of traffic. Students will walk in a single-file line while maintaining appropriate physical distancing.

Q: Will my child be allowed to participate in PE, recess and sports?
A: Yes. Recess and PE classes in shared spaces will require physical distance guidelines to be followed. A daily cleaning checklist of all surfaces and playground equipment commonly touched by children will be utilized to ensure all surfaces are sanitized after use. Athletic activities will comply with the recommendations put forth by the Louisiana High School Athletic Association. Equipment is cleaned after each use.

Q: Will my child’s school have aftercare or after-school programs?
A: Yes. All after-school programs will adhere to the same safety requirements followed during the school day.

Q: If an individual (student/staff) tests positive for COVID-19, do they have to provide a negative test before they can return to school/work?
A: No, an individual who tests positive for COVID should not test for 90 days (unless they experience symptoms).

Q: What procedures will be followed for breakfast and lunch?
A: Classrooms may be utilized for eating in place. If the cafeteria is used, students will be grouped and eat at staggered times, and the group sizes will be limited to meet the 6-feet physical distancing requirement. Students will move in single-file-spaced lines to enter and exit the cafeteria, as well as in serving, disposal and exit lines.
Q: How will my child who had to isolate or quarantine make up their work?

A: Like in any other situation when a student is at home due to illness, the parent/guardian will contact the school to make arrangements to get the student’s missed work. The student will continue to be enrolled at the same school during the period of isolation and/or quarantine.

Q: What happens if my child becomes sick at school?

A: The ill student will be escorted to the school’s isolation room. The principal and school nurse will be notified, and the parent/guardian will be contacted to pick the student up. Initial and follow-up guidance will be provided by the school nurse.

Q: What safety measures will be taken on the bus?

A: All Pre-K-12 students must wear a mask while on the bus. Students will sit in an assigned seat according to a seating chart, and all windows (if possible and safe) will be kept open for additional ventilation. The bus operator will clean and sanitize the bus after each route.

Q: Will I receive communication about cases in the classroom, bus and school?

A: Students in a classroom and/or bus will receive either a close contact letter or a non-close contact letter depending on the results of contact tracing. Additionally, the parent/guardian will receive a call from the school nurse. All staff and the parents/guardians of students will receive communication each day there is a new COVID case at a school.

Q: If an individual (student/staff) is identified as a close contact and is not vaccinated, do they have to provide a negative test result before they can return to school/work?

A: Yes, they must provide documentation from the testing facility or their medical provider.
Q: Do staff members have to provide verification that they tested positive for COVID-19?
A: Yes, at-home tests are not accepted at this time.
COVID-19 Leave: Quick Reference, HR Questions

Q: Where do staff members go to complete forms for COVID-19 leave?
A: Perfect Forms
https://app.perfectforms.com/PresentationServer/Form.aspx/Play/nuFGgAk?f=nuFGgAk

Q: How many days of COVID leave does an employee have in the 2021-2022 school year?
A: Five days, paid at 100%

Q: What type of leave can an employee take after they run out of COVID-19 leave?
A: Sick leave, extended leave

Q: Are all EBR staff members required to test for COVID-19?
A: Yes, the East Baton Rouge Parish School System requires all staff to test for COVID-19 each week. Link to registration site: k12testing.com/ebr

Q: Can EBR students take a weekly COVID-19 test at school?
A: A parent/guardian can volunteer/sign up for their child up for weekly testing. Link to registration site: k12testing.com/ebr
Q: What are the criteria used to transition a school to remote learning?

A: The district has implemented a protocol based on student enrollment, the number of staff members who are positive for COVID-19/self-quarantining and other additional factors. Link to protocol: Transition-to-Remote-Learning-Rev.-01.05.2022-2P-0028.pdf

Q: What instruction will a child who has to self-isolate and/or self-quarantine receive?

A: Students that are too ill to work will be given time to make up their work when they return to school. This has always been a best practice for educators. Any student quarantined or ill for a period of more than 10-14 days will need to follow the hospital homebound process.

Q: Will parents be notified if there is a case in their child’s class or only if the children are considered close contact?

A: All parents and staff are notified by the school when there is a positive case at the school. In addition to this, the parents of students in the impacted classroom/bus should receive a “non-close contact” letter. The parents of students who are close contacts will receive both a call and a “close contact” letter. Link to Communication protocol: Communication Process

Q: What improvements to ventilation systems have been made to schools in the EBR system?

A: The installation of the MERV-13 high-density commercial air filters is 100% complete at the schools. The filters will be changed quarterly.