

## COVID-19 FAQs (Revised 8/6/22)

Q. What protocols does the district follow for positive cases and self-quarantine situations?

A: The district's 2022-23 COVID-19 guidance aligns with the Louisiana Department of Health and the LA Department of Education's current guidance for schools.

Link: 2022-23 EBRPSS COVID Guidance for Pre K-12 Schools and K-12 Sports

Q: Has the district updated their COVID-19 School Health & 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

Q: Should my child stay home if they are ill?

A: ALL Students, teachers and staff are recommended to stay at home when they are experiencing any signs of infectious illness. Individuals who have a fever of 100.4 or greater or who are exhibiting any other signs of infectious illness will not be allowed to remain at school.

Q: Will my child have to wear a mask at school/bus?

A: All Pre-K-12 students may wear a mask while on the bus or in the school setting. Individuals who return to school, prior to completing their full 10 days of isolation/quarantine, will need to wear a mask in the school setting and during transportation until they complete their full 10 days of isolation/quarantine.

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 regularly throughout the school day; 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 infectious illness, they will be escorted to the school's isolation room and the parent/guardian will be contacted for pick-up.

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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. Daily cleaning of all surfaces and playground equipment commonly touched by children will occur to ensure all surfaces are sanitized after use. Athletic activities will comply with the recommendations put forth by the Louisiana Department of Health.

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?

A4: No, an individual who tests positive for COVID should not test for 90 days (unless they experience symptoms or unless they are directed to do so by their healthcare provider).

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 allow for social distancing. 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: A student who becomes sick/ill in the classroom or on the bus 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 immediately. Initial and follow-up guidance will be provided by the school nurse.

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

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A: Students will sit in an assigned seat, according to a seating chart. 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 that share the same classroom and/or bus as a positive individual will receive either a close contact letter or a non-close contact letter, depending on the results of contract tracing. Additionally, the parent/guardian of a student identified as a close contact will receive a call from the school nurse.

Q: Do staff members have to provide verification that they tested positive for COVID-19?

- A: Yes, at home test are not accepted at this time
- Q: What type of leave can an employee take after they run out of COVID-19 leave?

## A: Extended Leave

- Q: Are all EBR Staff 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: <u>COVID Safe Testing Registration</u> Link to <u>EBRPSS Weekly Testing Schedule</u>

- Q: Can EBR students take a weekly COVID-19 test at school?
- A: A parent/guardian can volunteer/sign up for their student(s) up for weekly testing.

Link to registration site: <u>COVID Safe Testing Registration</u> Link to <u>EBRPSS Weekly Testing Schedule</u>

Q: What criteria is used to transition a school to remote learning:

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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: <u>EBRPSS Transition-to-Remote-Learning Guidance</u>

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 more than 10-14 days will need to follow the hospital homebound 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 are scheduled to be changed on a quarterly basis.

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