

**Cohort** - An imposed group of students, such as a classroom, who will not mix with other groups of students to the largest extent possible in order to minimize exposure to potential carriers of the COVID-19 virus. Assigning students to a cohort is a mitigation measure that will minimize quarantine restrictions to the fewest number of students. Cohorts will spend much of their day interacting within the cohort rather than mixing between cohorts, especially at the elementary level where the use of PPE is less reliable.

**Isolation** - Isolation separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick. This strategy will be used to protect the public by preventing exposure to people who have or may have COVID-19. If a student or staff present with symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, they will be moved to an isolation area until they return home and are tested, or their symptoms are medically assessed. With COVID-19, the isolation period is currently defined as 10 days after onset of symptoms (or from test date if there are no symptoms) AND 72 hours of being symptom free, without the use of medication.

**Mitigation Measures** - A behavior that reduces the risk of contacting the COVID-19 virus. Mitigation measures include frequent and proper hand washing, physical distancing (maintaining 6' distance), increasing air exchange, directed vs voluntary movement, personal protective equipment, including face masks, no shared food, beverages, individual supplies, reducing points of congestion and others.

**Non-household Contact** - A person is considered to be a non-household close contact if they were within six feet of a positive person for more than 15 minutes, or had physical contact with the person, or had direct contact with the respiratory secretions of the person, like if a person was coughed or sneezed on, had contact with dirty tissue, shared a drinking glass, food, towels, or other personal items with the person, or stayed overnight for at least one night in a household with the person. A non-household close contact is subject to a 14-day quarantine.

**Physical Distancing** - A mitigation strategy to minimize the risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus, also referred to as "social distancing." Health experts recommend maintaining a 6' distance when possible to mitigate the transmission of the respiratory illness.

**PPE** - Personal Protective Equipment. PPE refers to any device or appliance designed to be worn or held by an individual for protection against one or more health and safety hazards. When mitigating COVID-19 risk within a school setting, typical PPE includes cloth or disposable face masks, face shields, and in certain situations gloves and disposable gowns.

**Quarantine** - Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease, such as COVID-19, so they are not in public, or around other people, if they become sick. Quarantine is imposed by the County Health Department based on close contact to a positive case of COVID-19. The time period that people are under quarantine is 14 days from their last exposure to the COVID-19 case. Testing negative for COVID-19 during those 14 days does not end quarantine early, as symptoms can develop at any point in those 14 days. Students and staff who are quarantined by the County Health Department will not be allowed into the school buildings until quarantine requirements have been satisfied. Healthy people can be quarantined.

**Social Distancing** - see **Physical Distancing**, above - A mitigation strategy to minimize the risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus, also referred to as physical distancing. Health experts recommend maintaining a 6' distance when possible to mitigate the transmission of the airborne virus.