



**BASS LAKE JOINT UNION
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
DISTRICT**



"Every Child...a Promise"

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RETURN TO SCHOOL/WORK FOR ALL STUDENTS & STAFF

(Developed in conjunction with the Madera County Department of Public Health, Madera County Superintendent of Schools, and the Madera County Schools Reopening Task Force; June 2020)

(Revised: 6.18.2020)

FOR ALL DISTRICT STAFF AND STUDENTS: If you are an employee/student preparing to return to work/school after a respiratory illness, with or without fever, please use the following guidelines.

- If you test **positive for COVID-19** you are responsible for reporting this result to the Madera County Public Health Department at (559) 675-7893, and your employer / school site immediately.

- In accordance with CDPH guidance, when a student, teacher, or staff member or a member of their household tests positive for COVID-19 and has exposed others at the school, implement the following steps:
 - In consultation with the local public health officials, the appropriate school official may consider whether school closure is warranted and length of time based on the risk level within the specific community as determined by the local public health officer.
 - In accordance with standard guidance for isolation at home after close contact, the classroom or office where the COVID-19-positive individual was based will typically need to close temporarily as students or staff isolate.
 - Additional close contacts at school outside of a classroom should also isolate at home. (Close contact is defined as inside six feet for over 10 minutes)
 - Additional areas of the school visited by the COVID-19-positive individual may also need to be closed temporarily for cleaning and disinfection. (See School Closure Guidelines)
 - Develop a plan for continuity of education, medical and social services, and meal programs and establish alternate mechanisms for these to continue.

- If you have tested **positive for COVID-19**, have a **pending test**, or developed a respiratory illness but **chose to not get testing done**, you may return to work / school if:
 - It's been at least 72 hours since your last fever without the use of fever reducing medications AND;
 - Your respiratory symptoms have resolved AND;
 - It's been at least 10 days since the onset of illness AND;

- You restrict contact for 14 days since onset of illness AND until all symptoms completely resolve.
- If you have a respiratory illness and **tested negative for COVID-19**, you may return to work / school if:
 - It's been at least 48 hours from symptom onset AND;
 - It's been at least 72 hours since your last fever without the use of fever reducing medications AND;
 - Your respiratory symptoms have *significantly improved* AND;
 - You wear a facemask at all times on campus until all symptoms are resolved AND;
 - You contact Madera County Public Health to discuss repeat testing if you have a worsening of symptoms despite an initial negative test.
- If you have tested **positive for COVID-19** while **asymptomatic** and do not subsequently develop symptoms since your positive test, you may return to work if it has been at least 10 days from your date of test performed.

For returning from international travel quarantine for 14 days,

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/after-travel-precautions.html>

For domestic, it depends on state/local guidance if need to quarantine.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html>

SEASONAL ALLERGIES:

- Rarely, patients with COVID-19 will present with mild upper respiratory tract symptoms that are difficult to distinguish from seasonal allergies or “allergic rhinitis”. Here are a few ways to distinguish the two:
 - Seasonal allergies usually cause stuffy nose, clear nasal discharge (runny nose), sneezing, and red itchy eyes. Seasonal allergies should be just that—seasonal. They occur around the same time each and every Spring. While it is possible to develop a new allergy, acute respiratory symptoms are more likely due to a viral infection if you’ve never had seasonal allergies.
 - Allergy symptoms may increase depending on the amount of exposure to the allergen, persist as long as the allergen is present, and resolve after the allergen is removed. Seasonal allergies are generally not associated with fever, muscle aches, general malaise, or severe sore throat.
 - Viral respiratory tract infections, including those caused by novel coronavirus, may only cause nasal congestion and runny nose, but are more likely to be acute in onset and accompanied by symptoms such as low grade fever, general malaise, body aches, and sore throat. Additionally, a viral infection will get progressively worse before it gets better.
 - If you develop symptoms which are very typical of the seasonal allergies you experience each spring, especially if they respond to an allergy medicine such as an anti-histamine, you should not get tested for COVID-19 and instead follow standard precautions.

If you have questions about your symptoms and whether you should be tested for COVID-19, please call Madera County Public Health at (559) 675-7893.

Viral Respiratory Tract Infection:	Seasonal Allergies:
Runny nose, often progressing to yellow/green	Runny nose, clear mucous
New acute symptoms	Seasonal onset, reliably with presence of allergen
General malaise	Feel mostly well
Fever possible	No fever
Body aches	No body aches
Sore throat, often moderate to severe	Sometimes mildly sore or “scratchy” throat
Symptoms progressive over time, unrelated to environmental exposure	Symptoms persist with presence of allergen and improve with reduced exposure to allergen

EMPLOYEE/STUDENT RETURN TO WORK/SCHOOL CRITERIA

POSITIVE TEST	NEGATIVE TEST	ASYMPTOMATIC POSITIVE TEST
Employee/student may return if...	Employee/student may return if...	Employee/student may return if...
72 hours with NO fever (without medication), AND...	48 hours from symptom onset, AND...	No subsequently developed symptoms, AND...
Respiratory symptoms resolved, AND...	72 hours with NO fever (without medication), AND...	10 days from the date of the test performed.
At least 10 days since the onset of illness, AND...	Significant respiratory improvement (must wear mask at school until all symptoms are resolved, AND...	
Isolated for at least 14 days, AND all symptoms completely resolved.	Repeat testing if symptoms worsen (even if the initial test was negative).	
	Coordinate with the Madera County Public Health Department (559) 675-7893	