

November 5, 2021

Frequently Asked Questions:

Why is Regina implementing a mask mandate now?

Regina is currently experiencing an outbreak throughout the elementary building with virus transmission occurring within classrooms.

Where is Regina getting guidance regarding masks and mandatory quarantine? Regina is taking guidance from the Johnson County Public Health Department and the Diocese of Davenport, with the approval of the Regina Board of Education and Regina's Return to Learn Committee.

Why is the Jr/Sr High being required to follow the mask mandate? The virus transmission taking place at the elementary level is impacting older siblings, relatives, and friends. Without a full mask mandate for all members, Regina runs the risk of cross-contamination and increased cases in other parts of the school community.

Who is required to wear a mask? All Regina PK-12 students, staff, and any visitors to the Regina campus or any off-site Regina sponsored events (i.e. concert at St. Patrick).

Does the mask mandate only apply to events on Regina campus? No. Any Regina-sanctioned event on campus or off-site requires Regina students and staff to wear a mask. (Regina parents/guests are not required to wear a mask at away activities but are strongly encouraged to do so).

Are patrons who attend activities or events at Regina required to wear a mask? Yes. All patrons are required to wear a mask inside or outside, unless actively eating or drinking.

Are there any exceptions to the wearing of masks for Regina students? Yes. Students who are actively participating in an athletic or fine arts event, are not required to wear masks. For example, athletes participating in practice or actively involved in competition are not required to wear masks; however, coaches, directors or students who are not actively participating need to wear masks. Performers on the stage do not have to wear masks; performers or off stage members of a performance shall wear masks.

Are masks still required for Regina-related transportation? Yes. Students or staff on school or activity busses, vans or other vehicles are required to wear a mask, per federal law.

When will the mask mandate go into effect? Monday, November 8, 2021.

How long will this mask mandate be in effect? This mask mandate will be in effect through winter break. The Diocese of Davenport, Regina administration, the Return to Learn Committee, and the Regina Board of Education will review the

situation prior to school resuming on Monday, January 3, 2022. Families will be notified of the status of the mask mandate prior to January 3rd.

Who has the authority to implement a mask mandate? The Diocese of Davenport recommended to the Regina Board of Education to implement a mask mandate. The Board voted and unanimously approved the recommendation.

How will the school address the educational needs of those students who are quarantined? Teachers will work with students and families to set up remote learning opportunities for students.

What determines being identified as a "close contact?" Anyone who is within 6 feet of an infected person for more than 15 cumulative minutes is considered a close contact; however, when both the close contact and the infected person both wear their masks at all times and properly, close contacts do not have to quarantine starting Monday, November 22.

Who has to quarantine and for how long? Please review the quarantine guidelines and exceptions listed below for both fully vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. Parents/guardians have the option to keep their child in quarantine for the full 14 days and those absences would be excused. Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 will isolate at home for 10 days.

Quarantine exceptions and options for a shortened quarantine period:

Fully Vaccinated individuals:

- Fully vaccinated asymptomatic exposed individuals do not need to quarantine but should monitor for symptoms and wear a mask for 14 days.

Unvaccinated Individuals: (up to November 22, 2021):

- A 7-day quarantine period may be considered if:
 - Individuals identified as close contacts receive a negative COVID-19 test after day 5 of their exposure.
 - If the exposed individuals wore a mask consistently and correctly, they can return to school and activities after day 7 of their quarantine period while monitoring for symptoms.
 - The exposed individual will need to continue to closely monitor for COVID-19 symptoms for 14 full days after their exposure.
- Effective November 22, unvaccinated and asymptomatic close contacts will not have to quarantine if both the COVID-19 positive individual and the close contact [wore well-fitting masks consistently and correctly](#) the entire duration of the exposure.

Is there a quarantine requirement? Yes. Any household members or close contact with an infected person will be required to quarantine unless they have been fully vaccinated. People are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after they complete their vaccine series. This requirement will be in effect until Monday,

November 22, 2021. On that date, asymptomatic close contacts through school will not be required to quarantine because masks will have been worn by all for the previous two weeks.

Will masks be required at school-sponsored events (athletics, fine arts, etc.)? Yes, masks will be available at the entrance for those who do not have their own.

How long will someone who recently had COVID have to wait to get vaccinated? Please contact your healthcare provider.

How long will someone who recently has been identified as a close contact have to wait to get vaccinated? Please contact your healthcare provider.

Where can I get more information regarding vaccination?

Please see the links below.

JCPH Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JCIowaPH>

JCPH COVID-19 Hub: <https://coronavirus-johnsoncounty.hub.arcgis.com/>

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/children-teens.html>

IDPH: <https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/Vaccine/Information-for-the-Public>

UIHC: <https://uihc.org/covid-19-vaccine-information>

Who can I call if I want assistance securing a vaccination? Please call your healthcare provider or pharmacy for assistance.

Can I take my child out of school to get vaccinated? Yes, and the absence will be considered excused.