Guidance On Essential Critical Infrastructure Related to Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

Recommendations for critical infrastructure workers may vary depending on the scenario. Central District Health has successfully seen quarantine prevent additional exposures in the school settings. Incorrect use or inability to follow the precautions can cause continued transmission and additional quarantines.

Here is what you can do:
If a school can operate without the impacted staff members, public health’s first recommendation is for them to quarantine for a duration of 14-days since their last exposure to an infectious person. Partial or shortened quarantine would be recommended over no quarantine.

In-classroom teachers and support staff: Recommended they quarantine for the 14-days from last exposure. If unable,

- Wear a surgical mask or other medical masks
- Physical distancing of 6 feet or greater should be maintained
- No sharing items
- Pre-screen, monitor, clean, and disinfect areas of use

Support staff not in the classroom: Recommended they quarantine for the 14-days from last exposure. If unable,

- Wear a surgical mask or other medical mask
- No sharing of items
- Physical distancing of 6 feet or greater should be maintained
- Mask required for surrounding staff
- Pre-screen, monitor, clean, and disinfect areas of use

Bus drivers: Recommended they quarantine for the 14-days from last exposure. If unable,

- Wear a surgical mask or other medical mask
- Physical distancing of 6 feet or greater should be maintained
- Mask requirement for children and teens
- Pre-screen, monitor, clean, and disinfect areas of use

CDH recommends remaining extra vigilant in monitoring health and staying home if feeling ill, especially if under recommended quarantine. This guidance is specifically tailored to staff and does not apply to students. Schools should have plans in place that allow staff to telecommute or use substitutes if and when at all possible. CDH recommends that schools provide clear communication to their communities about the risks and benefits associated with having exposed teachers or staff participate in the school setting.