**Delaware County Feedback on School Guidance Issued June 19, 2020**

1. Do adults need to wear a shield if they are wearing a mask?

*Comment*: No.

1. Are students permitted to use playgrounds? If so, what is the specific guidance on this?

*Comment*: Yes. The revised guidance includes this.

1. If 250 people is the maximum occupancy in the green phase, can 1 large location such as a cafeteria be divided with a physical barrier into 2 spaces to accommodate more the 250 people?

*Comment*: In any given space, there should not be more than 250 people at a time and support physical distancing. A large space can be divided to allow for two smaller spaces that supports 250 people with physical distancing.

1. When teaching unified arts classes such as art, music, gym, and culinary -- are different groups of students permitted to be in the same classroom (students rotate in) or should the unified art teacher rotate to the students’ location?

*Comment*: The preferred approach is to have the teacher rotate to the students’ location.

1. Guidance for the Exclusion from and Return to School Requirements: This assumes that the results of a COVID-19 test are immediately available. Is that accurate? We all know people are waiting 4 or 5 days for test results to come back. Are they recommending exclusion of the student/staff during this "waiting period"?

*Comment*: Results will not be immediate. Individuals should be excluded while waiting for a test result. Added to the updated guidance.

1. Decision tree for what schools should do in terms of school closure. Should there be no school closure and work each case or will school closures be necessary. Here are some scenarios:
   1. A student/staff is suspected of having COVID-19 (i.e. sent home or kept home because of COVID-19 symptoms) but no test results are available yet
   2. A student/adult tests positive for COVID-19
   3. A student/adult has no symptoms but has had contact with someone suspected of having COVID-19
   4. A student/adult has no symptoms but has had contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19

*Comment*: The primary goal is to not rush into a school closure and use the surveillance information for a given school to assess any need for closure. The Chester County Health Department and school will collaborate on the need for school closure based upon current data and information.

1. When the situation below occurs (from page 7 of the guidance document,), do we need to evacuate classrooms? If so, how is it recommended that we do that without possibly spreading the virus to other spaces?

 Cleaning and Disinfecting

*When staff or students become sick, or test positive for COVID-19:*

*o The building does not need to be evacuated.*

*o Close off areas used by a sick person and do not use these areas until after cleaning and disinfecting.*

*o Wait at least 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting. If not feasible, wait as long as possible. If seven days have passed since the individual was in the affected area, cleaning is not needed.*

*Comment*: Classrooms would need to be evacuated if the individual who became sick with COVID-19 symptoms was present in the classroom with symptoms. Staff and students would need to relocate to another area of the school until the room can be cleaned. Increased compliance with masking, physical distancing, hand washing, etc. will be important.

1. To clarify...a person with 1 symptom from the first column or 2 from the second will need to have a test, wait for the result, and wait for 3 full days after those symptoms disappear to return to school, even if the COVID test is negative. (see chart on page 8 of guidance) What about people with chronic conditions that cause symptoms from the second column (ex. congestion and sore throat from allergies)? Can they be exempt from any of this if they have documentation from a physician?

*Comment*: Individuals with chronic conditions that cause symptoms similar to those in the second column will be exempt with documentation from a healthcare provider. Added to updated guidance.

1. A person who is a close contact (symptomatic or not) with a COVID-19 positive person must be tested. Even when that test is negative, s/he must remain out of school for 14 days after the first exposure. Couldn’t this person be out longer than someone who is symptomatic (whether positive or negative for COVID) but not a close contact? (see chart on page 8) So theoretically, a student could be sent to the nurse, be found to be COVID-positive, and return to school earlier than a classmate or teacher?

*Comment*: The 10 day period focuses on the time during which an individual is contagious (estimated infection period). This is the focus of individuals with a positive test result. This is also the focus for close contacts because the contact has been exposed and could develop the illness and become contagious. The 14 day period focuses on the time between exposure and development of illness (estimated incubation period). These time frames are based upon currently known information. This is the focus for individuals without a positive test result. This information has been added to the updated guidance.

1. Page 9 – Chester County will notify the school - Will it be someone at the school building who is notified or someone at the district? If it’s someone at the school building, who will that person be? In either case, how will s/he be notified? (phone, email, shared list?)  How will Chester County determine this information?

*Comment*: Included in updated guidance.

1. What are we going to do as a district with isolation rooms? It is not likely there is a separate space from the nurse’s office. Specific guidance would be appreciated.

*Comment*: Added to updated guidance.

1. Will we as a district send a student or staff member home with 1 symptom from the first column or 2 from the second column?

*Comment*: Yes.

"Has Symptoms” is defined as having 1 or more symptom(s) in Group A

**OR** 2 or more symptoms in Group B

**OR** Yes to medication to suppress a fever.

1. What will be the response time if a district needs to contact the Chester County Health Department for support? Districts and IU believe there needs to be urgency if there is a potential case to get guidance and support in an expediated manner.

*Comment*: A team at the Health Department will be established to specifically support schools. Response time will be as immediate as possible. It will be imperative that each school district have a point of contact for Health Department communications. This has been added to the updated guidance.

1. If an adult is working alone in an office, and masks are mandatory, must the mask be worn when nobody else is present in the room?

*Comment*: Included in updated guidance.