**Testing**

If any staff member, student or visitor has a fever of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, they will not be allowed to enter any district building or in the case of a student will be isolated until a parent or guardian is able to come to pick them up. They will be referred to their health care provider for further evaluation. The staff member must present the results of a negative COVID-19 test results, in order to return to the district’s facilities. The District will be in constant communication with the Dutchess County Department of Health with any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. The District will follow all guidance and instructions from the Department of Health as it relates to isolation, quarantine of individuals and closure if necessary. As a general rule, any person suspected or who has a positive case must quarantine for a minimum of 14 days and provide authorization from a medical provider they are cleared to return to school facilities. In addition, any individual that had primary contact with the individual who has tested positive will also be required to quarantine for 14 days, and present a negative COVID-19 test result and/or authorization from a medical provider that they are cleared to return to school facilities. If an individual that had second contact with an individual that tested positive for COVID-19 will not be required to quarantine unless, they test positive for COVID-19 themselves.

It will be the District’s policy to isolate any area of the building for a minimum of 48 hours for which a person who has tested positive COVID-19 was located, to provide for cleaning and disinfecting. There may be certain times that it will be impossible to isolate a single area and thus the school facilities may have to be closed. The closing of school facilities will be done in conjuncture with Dutchess County Department of Health and corresponding guidance.

**Symptoms of COVID-19**

Symptoms of COVID-19 may appear 2-14 days after exposure and include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.

**Types of COVID-19 tests**

There are two different types of tests – diagnostic tests and antibody tests.

- A diagnostic test can show if you have an active coronavirus infection and should take steps to quarantine or isolate yourself from others. Currently there are two types of diagnostic tests which detect the virus – molecular tests, such as RT-PCR tests, that detect the virus’s genetic material, and antigen tests that detect specific proteins on the surface of the virus.

- An antibody test looks for antibodies that are made by your immune system in response to a threat, such as a specific virus. Antibodies can help fight infections. Antibodies can take several days or weeks to develop after you have an infection and may stay in your blood for several weeks or more after recovery. Because of this, antibody tests should not be used to diagnose an active coronavirus infection. At this time researchers do not know if the presence of antibodies means that you are immune to the coronavirus in the future.
How to be Tested for COVID-19

1. Contact your primary care physician to receive a prescription to visiting a testing site; or

2. Contact a testing site to schedule an appointment.

Testing sites in Dutchess County

Several sites have opened in Dutchess County offering diagnostic and/or antibody testing. Including:

- CareMount Medical Group
- Emergency One Urgent Care
- MidHudson Regional Hospital
- Nuvance Health
- Pulse-MD Urgent Care
- Rite Aid Pharmacy

The most up to date list of providers offering testing and the specific criteria for testing at each site is and will be maintained on Dutchess County’s website at www.dutchessny.gov/coronavirustesting

Be sure to review and understand the full list of requirements for each site BEFORE visiting.
Dutchess County Protocol for Symptomatic or Positive COVID-19 Student or Staff

Student or Staff is Symptomatic
Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, muscle or body aches.
For complete list of symptoms visit: cdc.gov/coronavirus

Negative Case
Individual provides note from medical provider, negative COVID-19 test, or it has been at least 10 days from onset of symptoms.

Isolate Individual
Isolate symptomatic individual and send home immediately. Inform individual that they must seek medical attention and/or get tested for COVID-19.

Positive Case
Individual tests positive for COVID-19.

Return to School
Allow individual to return.

Contact Tracing Process
- DBCH works directly with school nurse to gather case information.
- Index case (or parent or guardian) will be interviewed by DBCH.
- Close contacts (includes persons within 6 ft or less for more than 10 minutes) will be interviewed as needed.
- Close contacts will be quarantined for 14 days from the date of last exposure, advised to monitor for symptoms, and recommended to receive diagnostic test 5 days or more after exposure.

Notify DBCH
School Nurse notifies local health department of positive case by calling 845-486-3402.

Return to School
Close contacts to positive case can return to school after 14-day quarantine period.