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**WRANGELL  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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## **Frequently Asked Questions - September 5, 2020**

### **Q: Will EES be open for students on Friday since enrollment is down?**

A: No, not at this time. Currently, every teacher has taken on additional duties due to our lack of applicants for positions such as a health aide, a sanitation aide, and paraprofessional aides. In order to provide enough coverage to have students in school and open the building, reassignments have been implemented for the few support staff and bus volunteers. The thought is to see how this schedule goes for September. If the 4-5 para positions are filled, that would allow EES look at the schedule differently.

### **Q: How will parents and families be informed about outbreaks in their schools?**

A: In the Wrangell Public School District, we will use email to communicate information. Parents will be informed about how their children were exposed, such as whether it was in a classroom or other part of the school, but they will not be given any information about the identity of the individual to whom they were exposed to protect that individual's confidentiality.

### **Q: Will I know whether there was a sick person in my child's classroom?**

A: All staff and students who have come into close contact with the individual will be informed. In some schools and locations, disclosing more detailed information could lead to the identification of individuals who test positive or may be ill, which would result in an unauthorized disclosure of personal health information. This could result in stigmatization of these individuals and their families. School officials will work to promptly inform close contacts while protecting the privacy of individuals according to state and federal laws. For privacy reasons, we cannot share any details other than that your child and all others who were in contact with the positive case need to quarantine for 14 days.

### **Q: If one of my children is considered a close contact, can my other children (siblings) still attend school?**

A: Yes, only the person who was in contact with the positive case needs to quarantine. The child who is quarantining needs to stay six feet from other family members and/or wear a face covering to avoid exposure. Siblings may attend school if their school has not transitioned to

remote learning. Siblings should be monitored for illness and should not attend school if they exhibit symptoms of COVID-19.

**Q: My child needs to do sports/activity outside the home. Can they do that during quarantine?**

**A:** No, your child may not leave your home for the next 14 days, except to seek medical care for COVID-19 or to go outside for exercise where they will be far away from other people. They may not ride in a car with anyone not from your household. Your child cannot travel or do any of their usual activities outside the house for the next 14 days. Others may not visit your home for the next 14 days.

**Q: What if my child gets sick/sicker?**

**A:** Call your child's doctor for advice. Do not go to the doctor's office before calling, they need to know that your child is quarantined so they can prepare. If your child has emergency symptoms like difficulty breathing, turning blue, seeming confused, or passing out, call 911.

**Q: How do you define an "outbreak" and what is an "epidemiological link"?**

An outbreak of COVID-19 is defined as two or more cases of the virus in a population within a particular geographic area, which are epidemiologically linked. An epidemiological link is a particular place or individual that people who test positive for COVID-19 have in common, such as a workplace, co-worker or family member. It serves as a link or connection between people who are confirmed to have COVID-19.