

COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

One of our top priorities is the safety and well-being of our staff and our students. We recognize that the coronavirus pandemic is complex and ever-involving. These questions are by no means all encompassing and will be updated as more information becomes available. Please contact any member of our district COVID-19 response team with additional questions or for support.

St. Vrain Valley Schools COVID Response Team:

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Before Coming to Work and Safety in the Workplace:

- 1) What type of symptom checks should I do prior to coming to work?**
 - Employees should check their temperature before coming to work each day and monitor for symptoms of COVID-19.
- 2) What should I do when I arrive at work?**
 - When you arrive at work, you should put on your mask and check your temperature upon entering the building.
- 3) What precautions should I take while at work?**
 - Employees in PK-12 schools are expected to wear a cloth face covering at all times unless they are in their own classroom or office with the door closed, exceptions would be if eating or presenting.
 - Employees should regularly wash their hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water.
 - Employees should maintain social distance of at least 3 feet between others whenever possible.

4) How are our district HVAC systems supporting ventilation?

- Please see [this document](#) from our Operations and Maintenance Department

Illness, Quarantine, and Isolation of Staff and Students

Definitions per CDC:

- Isolation separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.
- Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.

Symptoms of COVID-19 per the Colorado Department of Public Health:

| <u>Major Symptoms:</u> | <u>Minor Symptoms:</u> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of taste or smell • Feeling feverish, having chills, temperature of 100.4 F or greater • New or worsening cough • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sore throat • Runny nose or congestion • Muscle or body aches • Headache • Fatigue • Nausea, vomiting • Diarrhea |

1) What should I do if I am experiencing symptoms of COVID-19?

- You should stay home from work. Contact your supervisor to let them know you'll be absent from work and enter your time in the absence reporting system.
- You must remain at home if your symptoms have not resolved completely within 24-48 hours. If your symptoms are not improving after 48 hours, testing for COVID is recommended. You should also reach out to your medical provider with any questions.
- If your symptoms are improving, you may return to work following the [How Sick Is Too Sick](#) guidelines.

2) What should I do if my child is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19?

- Your child should stay home and isolate as much as possible. If your child's symptoms have resolved within 24 hours for major symptoms and 48 hours for minor symptoms the child can return to school following the

[How Sick Is Too Sick](#) guidelines. If symptoms persist after 48 hours, testing for COVID is recommended.

- If there is no known COVID-19 exposure, the parent can come to work.
- If you need to stay home to care for your child, you should contact your supervisor to let them know you'll be absent from work and enter your time in the absence reporting system.

3) What should I do if I have been in close contact with someone with symptoms of COVID-19 who has a known exposure? (this would include your child)?

- You may need to quarantine for this exposure.
- Complete the Staff [Screening Form for COVID-19](#). Once the screening form is received, a member of the district's COVID-19 response team will follow-up with you on next steps.
- You should contact your supervisor to let them know you'll be absent from work and enter your time in the absence reporting system.

4) What should I do if I have been in close contact with someone who has a positive test for COVID-19?

- You may need to quarantine for this exposure.
- Complete the Staff [Screening Form for COVID-19](#). Once the screening form is received, a member of the district's COVID-19 response team will follow-up with you on next steps.
- You should contact your supervisor to let them know you'll be absent from work and enter your time in the absence reporting system.

5) What should I do if my medical provider has recommended that I quarantine?

- You should contact your supervisor and share your doctor's documentation. You will need to enter your time off in the absence reporting system.
- Complete the Staff [Screening Form for COVID-19](#). Once the screening form is received, a member of the district's COVID-19 response team will follow-up with you on next steps.

6) Do positive COVID-19 cases need a negative test to return to work/school?

- An individual who tests positive for COVID-19 must follow home isolation guidance to remain home for 10 days following symptom onset and 24 hour fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications. A negative test is not needed to return to work/school, however a negative test before the end of the full isolation period does not mean they can return sooner.

7) How is St. Vrain determining when an employee can return to work?

- St. Vrain is consulting with our local health department.
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nhgGlbakyAJY3XJ2TW44sw7btXXqISBR/view>

8) Where or how can I get tested for COVID-19?

- a) Testing resources in Boulder County:
<https://www.bouldercounty.org/families/disease/covid-19/testing/>
- b) Testing resources in Weld County:
https://www.weldgov.com/departments/health_and_environment/2019_novel_coronavirus/covid19_testing
- c) Contact your healthcare provider for testing options.

9) Where can I get a COVID-19 vaccine? How soon will I get my vaccine?

- You can register for your vaccine with your own health care provider.

Confidentiality and Reporting Requirements

1) Can I disclose the name(s) of COVID-19 cases?

- All district staff are expected to follow HIPAA regulations and should not disclose the name(s) of COVID-19 cases, or any other medical information, to other staff, students, or families.

2) If someone in my school/department/classroom has a positive test for COVID, will I be informed?

- HIPAA regulations apply, so information will only be shared with those personally impacted. Only close contacts of a confirmed or probable COVID case will be notified. St. Vrain collaborates closely with health department communication and will follow their guidance.
- This year, we will be notifying families, teachers, and staff regarding cases of COVID-19 in their school only if they are directly impacted. For families, teachers, and staff interested in tracking the case data related to their school, St. Vrain Valley Schools will continue to maintain a [COVID-19 case dashboard](#) on our website beginning August 17. Confirmed cases of COVID-19 will be updated on weekday mornings and quarantine information will be updated weekly on Friday mornings when school is in session.

3) Can I ask other staff or my students about their vaccine status?

- At no time should teachers or staff inquire about the vaccination status of a student or a colleague, as this information is confidential.
- St. Vrain Valley Schools will allow for families to apply for a mask exemption if their student has any medical reasons that would make wearing a mask difficult or harmful to the student. If staff would like to request a mask exemption for medical reasons, they should contact Heather Keith in the Human Resources Department at keith_heather@svvvsd.org. Students or staff members who have a mask exemption may experience increased quarantines if they are exposed to COVID-19 at school or work.

Coronavirus and Leave

1) If I am directed to quarantine or isolate, can I work remotely?

- If you are quarantined, you need to remain at home following the guidance of our health services team. You should enter your absence into the absence reporting system. For questions about leave during your quarantine, please contact Rachel Romero.
- Any accommodations can be requested through your supervisor who will work with HR to determine any available accommodations.
- During an isolation period, there is no expectation that you will continue performing your work duties. The isolation period is to allow you to recover from any symptoms you may be experiencing. You should enter your absence into the absence reporting system. For questions about leave during isolation, please contact Rachel Romero.
- Any accommodations can be requested through your supervisor who will work with HR to determine any available accommodations.

2) What if the reason I cannot work is COVID-19 related?

- If you are diagnosed with COVID-19, show symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or you are caring for a family member who is diagnosed, you will use your annual, accrued sick, or PTO leave days first. Additional leave up to 10 days may be available through the Colorado Public Health Leave (PHEL). Please contact Rachel Romero in Human Resources to determine eligibility and options.

3) If I am sick, should I stay home? What do I use for leave?

- Yes, if you have symptoms of any illness, you should stay home and contact your doctor. If you are tested for COVID-19 and/or subject to an isolation or quarantine, you will need to notify your supervisor. You should also complete our district [Screening Form](#). If you are unable to work, you will use your annual, accrued sick, or PTO leave days first. Additional leave up to 10 days may be available through the Colorado Public Health Leave (PHEL). For non-COVID-19 illness, you would use your sick leave. For absences of 3 days or more you will need to contact Rachel Romero.

4) What if I come into contact with someone with COVID-19?

- If you are suspected of coming into contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, you should not come into work and contact your doctor. You should also notify your supervisor and complete the district [Screening Form](#). With a doctor's note to self-quarantine, you may be eligible for additional leave.

5) I have childcare conflicts that prevent me from coming to work. What do I do?

- Please contact Rachel Romero for more information on available leave.

6) I have questions about leave available through the Healthy Families Workplace Act. Where can I find more information?

- <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb20-205>

Accommodations including PPE

1) I have a health condition and feel I may need accommodations for in-person work. What do I do?

- Please contact Heather Keith for guidance, as this may be covered under ADA for accommodations. We would work with you to gather information from your doctor about recommended accommodations and engage in an interactive process with you to determine how we can accommodate your needs.

2) I am in a high-risk category or live with someone in a high-risk category. I feel I can't come into work. What do I do?

- Please contact Heather Keith for guidance. This may be covered under ADA for accommodations, may qualify for leave, or may require an employee to take PTO, vacation, or leave without pay.

3) What kind of PPE will be provided to me? What if I want additional PPE?

- All teachers and staff will be expected to wear a cloth face covering while at work unless they are alone in a room with the door closed, socially distanced while eating, or have a documented medical condition where face coverings would have a negative impact on their health. Teachers and staff may also elect to wear a clear plastic face shield if they wish, but a face shield cannot replace a face covering. If a teacher or staff member wishes to have additional PPE, they should work with their supervisor before bringing anything additional to work. Modifications to physical spaces must have approval by the supervisor in collaboration with our Operations and Maintenance department.