



Sweet Home Central School District of Amherst and Tonawanda

Office of the Superintendent
1901 Sweet Home Road • Amherst, New York 14228
(716) 250-1402

Michael V. Ginestre
Superintendent of Schools

January 11, 2022

Dear Sweet Home,

The Center for Disease Control (CDC), the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), and the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) have recently updated guidelines on quarantine periods for individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 and for individuals exposed to COVID-19 (close contacts). In complying with these new guidelines and in an effort to keep our healthy students in school, the following changes are being adopted immediately at Sweet Home Central School.

If your Child is COVID-19 Positive

Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 are now eligible to return to school after five (5) days of quarantine. Day zero is considered the day of symptom onset, or the day of the positive test, whichever came first. They are now eligible to return after five days if:

- They are asymptomatic five days from the test date. If symptomatic, they must be fever-free for 24 hours with symptoms improving. Students must be without a runny nose and/or persistent cough.
- If a student who tests positive is immunocompromised, they must still quarantine for 10 days.
- Upon return, students must still wear a well-fitting mask whether symptomatic or asymptomatic. The same guidelines exist in school for mask wearing and social distancing.
- If a student is unable to wear a mask because of a medical condition, they must remain in quarantine for 10 days.

Student Close Contacts

If your child is considered a close contact they will now isolate for 5 days instead of 10 days as long as they remain asymptomatic. If a student has any COVID-19 like symptoms, please call your school nurse immediately for further instruction.

Test-To-Stay for In-School Close Contacts

Once Sweet Home receives its next shipment of COVID-19 tests, we will begin our test-to-stay program. This is for students that are named close contacts in school, but are asymptomatic and receive at least two negative test results during a five-day period. Parents will have to consent to have their child participate in the test-to-stay program. More information on this program will be provided once Sweet Home secures COVID-19 tests.

We thank you for your support and know the guidelines change frequently. With that said, we are excited about keeping our healthy children in school so we can continue to address their academic, social, and emotional needs in the best manner possible. Thank you again and have a great evening.

Sincerely,

Michael V. Ginestre, Superintendent of Schools

Sweet Home Schools... .. Every Student, One Community, Ready for the Future