

WEST BUFFALO CHARTER SCHOOL NEW COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

The new COVID-19 protocols include:

Handwashing procedures

- Scheduled times for handwashing throughout the day
- Students will be taught the proper handwashing procedures
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building

Use of face coverings

- Students will be strongly encouraged to wear a face covering (mask) **at all times**
- Students will be required to wear a mask in all common areas and when social distancing cannot be maintained
- Students will be provided with a mask if they do not have one
- Staff members will be required to wear a mask at all times unless working alone in a room

Social distancing

- Students will be required to maintain 6 feet apart from others
- Classrooms will be arranged so social distancing can be maintained
- Lockers and cubbies will not be used for storing personal belongings
- Student's personal belongings will be kept at their desk
- Sharing of classroom supplies and learning materials will not be allowed
- Outdoor spaces will be used as much as possible

Respiratory hygiene

- Students will be taught the proper techniques for sneezing, coughing and disposing of tissues

Daily health screenings

- PikMyKid app for daily health screening questionnaire including temperature check will be utilized by families
- Temperature check will be done on any student prior to entering the building whose parent has not completed screening on app
- Students will not be allowed to attend school if temperature is 100.0 degrees F or above or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19
- Students will be monitored for illness throughout the day and sent to the Health Office for assessment by the school nurse if needed
- Staff will be trained in the signs and symptoms of COVID-19
- Students sent home for illness will be allowed to return to school in accordance with CDC and NYSDOH guidelines (see Exclusion and Return to School Policy)

Food Service

- The cafeteria will not be used for school meals
- Students will be served breakfast and lunch in their classrooms
- Students will be allowed to bring their own lunch from home
- Students will not have access to a refrigerator or microwave
- Students will not have access to communal water fountains
- Students are strongly encouraged to bring a pre filled water bottle from home

Drop off and Dismissal

- School hours will remain 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM
- Parents will not be permitted in the building during drop off and dismissal
- Use of PikMyKid app
- Students will be required to wear a mask and sanitize their hands prior to entering the building
- Students will be allowed to enter the building beginning at 7:50 AM
- There will be no morning Jumpstart program until further notice
- Dismissal will begin at 3:00 PM and conclude at 3:30 PM
- There will be no After-School programs or clubs until further notice

Procedures for Visitors

- You must have a scheduled appointment to enter the building (only essential visitors will be allowed to enter)
- Visitors will be required to take a health check questionnaire and be temperature screened prior to entering the building
- All visitors will be required to wear a mask

Quarantine Procedure

- Families will immediately be notified if their child's cohort has to quarantine
- Quarantine will officially begin the day after notification
- Students will participate in remote learning while in quarantine

School Closure

- Administration will collaborate with the local health department to determine school wide closures due to increased community transmission
- If 5% of the in-person school population is known to have a suspected or positive case of COVID-19, a minimum of a 2 week building closure will be implemented in accordance with the state and county health departments

West Buffalo Charter School Illness Exclusion Policy

West Buffalo Charter School will follow the CDC and NYSDOH guidelines on when it is necessary for staff or a student to be excluded from school due to illness and when they may return to the school setting. This policy is in effect and required to be followed by all staff and students of West Buffalo Charter School.

Students and Staff are required to to be excluded when they have:

1. A Positive COVID-19 test
2. Had close contact with someone who has COVID-19
3. Has any of the following symptoms of COVID-19 which include:
 - Fever of 100 F or greater
 - 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
 - Diarrhea
 - Poor feeding or appetite

If a staff member or student develops any of the above symptoms during school hours, they will be sent to the Health Office for assessment. If illness is determined by the School Nurse, the staff member or the student will be sent home immediately. Students will be sent to the isolation room to wait for pick up from a parent.

If a staff member or student has a chronic condition (asthma, allergies, migraines,etc.) that causes symptoms that may present as symptoms of COVID-19, they remain in school as long as the symptoms are neither contagious or pose a public health threat. Documentation from a health care provider will be required.

West Buffalo Charter School Return to School Policy

West Buffalo Charter School will follow CDC and NYSDOH guidelines on when a student or staff member may return to school after exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. You may return when **ALL** criteria have been met:

If Negative for COVID-19, you may return when:

1. Written note from healthcare provider with medical diagnosis and clearance to return to school
2. Fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication
3. Feeling well for 24 hours
4. Negative COVID-19 test

If Positive for COVID-19, you may return when:

1. At least 14 days have passed
2. 3 days fever-free without the fever-reducing medication
3. 3 days of feeling well and improvement of symptoms

If you do not meet all criteria or you are not diagnosed by a healthcare provider (you do not go to the doctor) you will not be allowed to return for 14 days

**West Buffalo Charter School Policy/Procedure
for
Notifying Families of a Positive COVID-19 Diagnosis**

In the case of West Buffalo Charter School being informed of a positive COVID-19 diagnostic test result by an individual who has been in school or on school grounds including students, faculty, staff, or visitors, West Buffalo Charter School will implement the following procedures:

- School Nurse in conjunction with the Covid Coordinator will immediately notify the local and state health departments.
- School Nurse in conjunction with the Covid Coordinator and other responsibility parties will cooperate with the state and local health department contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine efforts.
- Covid Coordinator and other responsibility parties will ensure the areas used by the individual during their infectious period will be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly according to CDC guidelines.
- School Nurse in conjunction with the Covid Coordinator will notify all individuals who have come into close or proximate contact with the person with COVID-19. These contacts (assigned cohort and any others deemed exposed through contact tracing) will be notified and instructed to quarantine at home for 14 calendar days. They will be permitted to return to school after the 14 days if asymptomatic.
- School Nurse in conjunction with the Covid Coordinator will additionally notify **all** West Buffalo Charter School families, teachers, and support staff while maintaining confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) that a person with a positive COVID-19 test was in the school or on school grounds and exposed individuals are in quarantine as per CDC and NYSDOH guidance.
- All notifications will be sent as soon as possible and include information on symptom monitoring, what to do if symptoms develop, COVID-19 prevention strategies, and information on what West Buffalo Charter School is doing in response to the positive case.