Students

Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease
A student with or carrying a communicable and/or chronic infectious disease has all rights, privileges, and services provided by law and the District's policies. The Superintendent will develop procedures for communicable and chronic infectious diseases for the Board's consideration.

Coronavirus Pandemic: COVID-19 testing

This section of the Policy has been developed as a coordinated response to the health and safety emergency posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Policy shall be in effect for as long as the pandemic poses a threat to the health and safety of the school district community and constituents.

It shall be the policy of the Peoria Public Schools to implement periodic non-invasive rapid COVID-19 testing for students and staff. The testing initiative is aimed primarily at helping asymptomatic students in all grade levels to return and stay in school safely. The testing shall also be implemented for symptomatic district employees in order to help reduce the length of quarantine time away from work. The result of the tests will become available in less than 24 hours in most cases.

It is the goal of the Board of Education to provide in-person learning during the current pandemic in a manner that minimizes the spread of COVID-19 without the necessity of quarantining large number of students. To this end the Board will institute a testing program that will test asymptomatic students on a regular basis in addition to symptomatic students as follows:

A. A portion of the student body will be tested on a daily basis so that all students will have been tested at least once in any two-week period based on a schedule determined by the administration.

B. Students may be tested more frequently in schools, sports, activities, and other areas where spread of the virus has increased.

C. Students who have one or more symptoms of COVID-19 will be tested as soon as practical after the onset of symptoms in accordance with procedures adopted by the administration.

D. The test shall be non-invasive and selected by the administration. Students shall be tested by school nurses or such other qualified person as designated by the administration. The administration shall determine the location of the testing and such other procedures to implement the program.

E. The tests shall be free to the students.
The parents or guardians will be notified of this policy by public announcement, including but not limited to one or more of the following means before the policy is implemented:

1. By virtue of the public adoption of the policy by the Board of Education
2. Robocall
3. District website announcements
4. Building announcements
5. Informational flyers
6. Any other means deemed appropriate by the District

Special provisions and requirements

A. If an asymptomatic student (or his/her parents) does not wish to be tested, he/she shall be required to show cause for declining the tests. The “Show Cause” process is an opportunity for families to “Opt-out” by submitting a reason to the District Administration for consideration as to why the student(s) should not be tested. If such waiver is granted, the student will **NOT** have the option of in-person learning but will be given remote learning under the District program.

B. A symptomatic student (or his/her parents) refuses to be tested, he/she shall be quarantined in accordance with IDPH/ISBE guidance.

C. Any students whose family did **NOT** exempt from testing as specified above, will be expected to submit to periodic COVID-19 testing. If a student should refuse COVID-19 testing and does not have a waiver, he/she will be treated as a positive result and will be “Excluded” from the school building.

D. Any students who is absent on his/her test date, will be tested on the next, earliest date available,

The administration is authorized to implement such other procedures as necessary to safeguard the health and safety of the school community pursuant to this policy.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-21.11.
410 ILCS 315/2a
77 Ill. Admin Code 690.100 et seq
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq
Rehabilitation Act, Section 504, 29 U.S.C. § 794(a).

Adopted: July 18, 2005
Revised: July 23, 2021