



HIRAM ES SHIFTING TO YELLOW COVID STATUS MONDAY 10/04

October 1, 2021

Dear Hiram Elementary School Parents/Guardians:

Before the school year began, we shared our School Operations (Opening) Plan and emphasized that the four-tiered, color-coded escalating practices would give us the flexibility to adjust and adapt to evolving pandemic-related challenges. We have been monitoring our school's data closely and believe the data trend supports a shift to a less-restrictive operating status.

Beginning Monday, October 4, 2021, our school will shift from Orange to Yellow Operating Level (Preventive Practices) until further notice. The shift to Yellow status is due to a declining number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 and represents a positive trend for our school.



Our goal is to manage COVID-19 as a community. We appreciate the community continuing to support our efforts to address the pandemic by being mindful of activities outside of school. By maintaining vigilance, we can prevent the need to return to more restrictive mitigation measures. Data regarding COVID-19 cases at our school and other PCSD schools can be found here: <https://www.paulding.k12.ga.us/Page/45777>

Students identified as close contacts and currently quarantined under the Orange protocol should continue to follow that protocol until the quarantine is completed. The close-contact quarantine protocol for Yellow, beginning Monday, can be found on the next page, and the complete operating protocol can be found beginning on page 12 of the School Operations Opening Plan at the link above.

Additionally, parent-teacher conferences will be conducted remotely, as previously organized and scheduled, the week of October 11-14. The two-hour early release that week will allow for additional cleaning and disinfecting measures.

We appreciate your flexibility and understanding as we adapt our plans to maintain the safest possible learning environment at our school. We will keep you updated on our progress, but in the meantime if you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school front office.

Sincerely,

Steve Barnette
Interim Superintendent

Dr. Kimberly Walton
Principal

YELLOW QUARANTINE PROTOCOL

FOR STUDENTS IDENTIFIED AS CLOSE CONTACTS

Where did close contact with confirmed case of COVID-19 occur?

IN SCHOOL:

- Student may attend school.
- Student must wear mask while at school through Day 14, if medically able.
- If medically unable to wear a mask, student must quarantine at home under DPH guidance.
- Student must remain symptom-free. If symptoms develop, student must quarantine at home under DPH guidance.

OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL:

VACCINATED

(or recovered from COVID-19 with documentation within 90 days)

UNVACCINATED

- Student may NOT attend school.
- Student must quarantine at home and follow DPH guidance, which can be found at link and in red DPH graphic at left: <https://dph.georgia.gov/dph-covid-19-guidance>

OPTION 1: Return Day 8

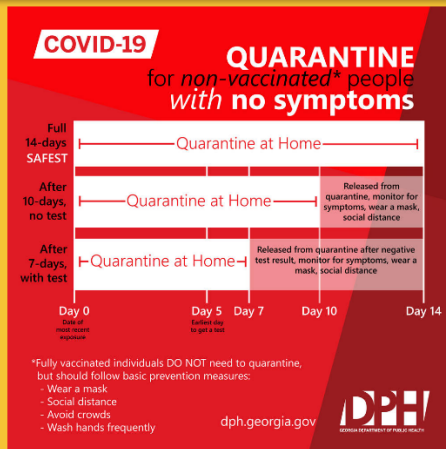
- Proof of PCR/Antigen negative test required, with specimen collection after Day 5;
- Student must wear mask from Day 8 through Day 14.

OPTION 2: Return Day 11

- Student must wear mask from Day 11 through Day 14.

OPTION 3: Return Day 15

- No mask required.



Quarantine Guidance: What to do if you were exposed to someone with the novel coronavirus (COVID-19)
Isolation Guidance: | Georgia Department of Public Health