

Dear SCSD families and community,

On October 27, 2021 Washington state Department of Health (DOH) revised their [K-12 Requirements for the 2021-2022 School Year](#) in an effort to reduce the number of days students are quarantined away from school when they have been identified as a close contact to COVID-19 at school. This is an additional option for our families.

Under the new requirement, unvaccinated K-12 students who are close contacts in an SCSD “Test to Stay” protocol may complete a “modified” quarantine of seven days. During this time, the student may attend school but otherwise must remain at home away from others (e.g., the student may not participate in extracurricular activities/sports or before/after school child care or activities and should not attend social gatherings, etc.).

How does Test to Stay work?

- Students in modified quarantine under Test to Stay are first tested on the day they are identified as a close contact to stay in class. They are then tested again in five to seven days post-exposure to be considered cleared on day 8.
- **This option does not apply for students who have been identified as a close contact from a community-related transmission outside of school** (e.g., household, social activity, or event).
- A student who is a close contact who chooses not to be tested would need to quarantine for 10 days.
- Those students that are determined to have been exposed outside of school will still have a 10-day quarantine.
- Students determined to be close contacts **who are fully vaccinated** and do not have symptoms do not need to quarantine or participate in the Test to Stay program.

The challenge for our district in adopting Test to Stay is the supply of tests may be limited. Although we continue to attempt to replenish our supplies, we may have to direct families to outside providers for testing.

Isolation (for students with COVID-19)

Students with COVID-19 must isolate—this has not changed. These changes above are only to quarantine protocols for people who are exposed to COVID-19, or *close contacts*. These are the people identified through contact tracing following a confirmed case of COVID-19.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we yet again respond to a change in state health requirements during the pandemic.

**Respectfully,
Deborah Rumbaugh, Ed.D.
Superintendent**