



EDDIE BONINE, M.Ed., CAA
Executive Director

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MEMORANDUM

To: LHSAA Member School Principal
LHSAA Athletic Director / Parish Athletic Director
LHSAA School Superintendent
LHSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Chairman
LHSOA Director
LHSCA Director
LASS Executive Director & President
LASB Executive Director
Louisiana State School Superintendent
BESE Board President

Subject: LDH K-12 Recommendations / Updated Isolation / Quarantine

Date: December 30, 2021

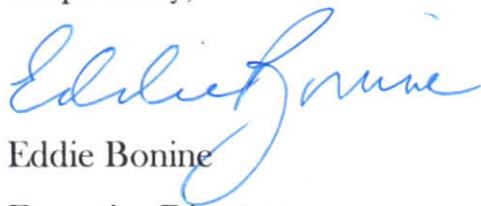
Please find attached the most recent communication this office has received from the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH). Within this communication, the State Epidemiologist *and* Program Director for Infectious Disease Epidemiology has recommended that there be a suspension of extracurricular activities due to the increasing COVID-19 Omicron variant. At this time, the LHSAA will not be issuing a concurrent recommendation for suspension of interscholastic extracurricular competition. The LHSAA will respectfully yield to the Local Education Agency (LEA) and/or Educational System to make the determination on whether a halt in interscholastic extracurricular competition shall / or shall not occur.

LHSAA... Beyond the Game

If the LEA / School System in which you reside chooses to follow the recommendations from LDH and suspend participation, please know any/all games, contests or matches will be recorded as canceled, if applicable, no power points awarded *and* rescheduling or adding games on or before the permissive January 29, 2022, will not be permitted. If the LEA/Educational System in which you reside does chose to suspend participation, this suspension shall remain in place until a communication from LDH and/or the Governor recommending a continuation of participation is published. Please notify this office at your earliest convenience if you choose to halt participation. If the LEA / Educational System in which you reside chooses to continue interscholastic extracurricular participation during this same time frame, the present game, match, or contest schedule will be recognized and all accepted practices in place for games being canceled due to a school and/or school's inability to fulfill the scheduled game, contest, or match because of COVID -19 related issues, will still be considered a forfeit, and if applicable, power points will be awarded accordingly.

In closing, I have the utmost confidence that all our association membership is doing what is acceptable and right for their respective communities. This I know because you have all proven it throughout this entire COVID-19 continued disruption and challenges.

Respectfully,



Eddie Bonine
Executive Director

LHSAA

LEMMI

Eddie Bonine

From: Theresa Sokol <Theresa.Sokol@LA.GOV>
Sent: Thursday, December 30, 2021 10:17 AM
To: Eddie Bonine
Cc: Ken Bradford; Joseph Kanter; Andrea Salinas
Subject: K-12 recommendations and updated isolation/quarantine guidance
Attachments: Omicron Return to School Recommendations12.29.21.docx

RECEIVED/REVIEW
[Handwritten signature]
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12/30/21

Hi Eddie,

I just wanted to share the attached document with you- it details updated public health recommendations to keep K-12 schools safe during the Omicron surge as well as updated isolation and quarantine recommendations for K-12 students. Because CDC has not updated their k-12 isolation and quarantine guidance yet, we adapted the newly released CDC guidance as interim isolation and quarantine recommendations for k-12 settings. Please note that LDH is recommending suspension of extracurricular activities in light of dramatically increasing COVID-19 cases related to the Omicron variant. We consider the need for this measure to be temporary and include a benchmark for when this recommendation would be lifted. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Theresa

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Return to School Recommendations

Omicron spreads easily and very quickly and has resulted in sharp increases in COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths throughout the state. This variant will cause widespread outbreaks and will likely result in K-12 school closures if prevention measures are not strictly followed in these settings.

- Mask universally indoors and outside when socially distancing is not possible
 - Maintain a distance of at least 6 feet during mealtimes when masking is not possible
- Most outbreaks identified in school settings have been associated with extracurricular activities. It is safest to suspend extracurricular activities while the extremely transmissible Omicron variant is circulating at such high levels throughout our state.
 - Consider resuming extracurricular activities when the statewide incidence of COVID-19 is below 200 infections/100,000 population.
- Do not hold social gatherings (e.g., school dances or pep rallies) until the statewide incidence of COVID-19 is below 200 infections/100,000 population.
- Children and staff should be tested for COVID-19 prior to returning to school.
- Get vaccinated and boosted when eligible

Interim Isolation and Quarantine Guidance for K-12 Schools

If You Test Positive for COVID-19 (Isolate)

Everyone, regardless of vaccination status:

- Stay home for 5 days.
- If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, you can leave your house.
 - If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.
- Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
 - If school cannot ensure masking for 5 additional days, then case should isolate for a full 10 days.

If You Were Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 (Quarantine)

Students who have completed the primary series of an mRNA vaccine:

- Wear a mask around others for 10 days.
- Test on day 5.

Staff who:

- have completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months, **OR**
- have completed the primary series of J&J vaccine within the last 2 months, **OR**
- have been boosted
- Wear a mask around others for 10 days.
- Test on day 5.

Students who are unvaccinated:

- Stay home for 5 days. After that continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
 - If school cannot ensure masking for 5 additional days, then contact should quarantine for a full 10 days.
- Test on day 5.

Staff who:

- are unvaccinated, **OR**
- have completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine over 6 months ago and are not boosted, **OR**
- completed the primary series of J&J over 2 months ago and are not boosted
 - Stay home for 5 days. After that continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
 - If school cannot ensure masking for 5 additional days, then contact should quarantine for a full 10 days.
 - Test on day 5.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT HEALTH / RECOMMENDATIONS