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Date: December 7, 2020

To: Parents and/or Guardians

From: Brian K. Ayers, Superintendent, Manhattan Schools

Subject: COVID Close Contact Quarantine Update

We'd like to notify you that the Manhattan School District will be following the CDC's and Gallatin City County Health Department's most recent change regarding guidelines for the length of quarantine for a close contact. As a reminder, a close contact is a person who is identified as being within 6 feet for greater than 15 minutes to a person who later tests positive for Covid-19.

Per the GCCHD, the length of time for an individual identified as a close contact to quarantine is now 10 days from the last date of exposure. If the person develops symptoms during that time frame they should be tested for Covid-19 and remain in quarantine until test results are obtained.

There are important steps associated with decreasing the number of individuals identified as close contacts within our school and to keep everyone as healthy as possible. It is imperative that students take responsibility for distancing themselves from others in the classroom and keeping group work to less than 15 minutes. In addition, students and staff need to stay home anytime they begin to feel any of the following symptoms. Contact tracing for a positive case can be greatly decreased if the covid positive person does not attend after symptom onset.

Stay home and contact your healthcare provider with the following symptoms. Please notify the school secretary or nurse of the physician's recommendation.

- Fever or chills
- 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

*Please call 911 or go to your nearest Emergency Room if you experience trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or inability to arouse, and bluish face or lips.

Thank you for continuing to monitor students prior to sending them to school each day, staying in good communication about symptoms and pending tests, and following quarantine guidelines so that we can do our best to slow the spread of Covid-19.