

# Echols County School System

DATE: [REDACTED]

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Echols County School System considers the health and well-being of our students, teachers, and staff to be of the utmost importance. On [REDACTED], we were alerted to a student/teacher/staff member who was diagnosed with COVID-19. We have been working closely with local public health officials to ensure the proper recommendations are followed to isolate the student/teacher/staff diagnosed with COVID-19, identify close contacts, and clean and disinfect areas of the school building.

## Your child was identified as a close contact to someone diagnosed with COVID-19.

A close contact includes being within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more.

**For your child's safety and the safety of the public, the Georgia Department of Public Health requires that you actively monitor your child's health for COVID symptoms and keep him/her quarantined at home from [REDACTED] through [REDACTED].**

All close contacts are instructed to take the following steps during the quarantine period:

- 1. Quarantine.** Your child should quarantine at home from [REDACTED] through [REDACTED], except in case of emergency or to be tested for COVID-19. He/she should not attend school, extracurricular activities, or public activities during this time.
- 2. Check for temperature and symptoms.** Twice a day check your child's temperature and assess him/her for the below COVID-19 symptoms using the following checklist:

<input type="checkbox"/> Fever or chills	<input type="checkbox"/> Headache	<input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat
<input type="checkbox"/> Cough	<input type="checkbox"/> New loss of taste or smell	<input type="checkbox"/> Fatigue
<input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	<input type="checkbox"/> Congestion or runny nose	
<input type="checkbox"/> Muscle or body aches	<input type="checkbox"/> Nausea or vomiting	
- 3. Get tested.** CDC and DPH recommend your child get tested for COVID-19 at least once during their quarantine period. If your child has no symptoms, the test should take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of quarantine. If your child develops symptoms, the test should be obtained earlier. **Please note that even if your child's test results are negative, he/she must remain in quarantine for the entire 14 days.**

Please review the following guidance documents from the Georgia Department of Public Health for additional quarantine recommendations:

Quarantine Guidance (<https://dph.georgia.gov/contact>)

Return to School Guidance (<https://dph.georgia.gov/document/document/return-school-guidance/download>)

Echols County Schools and Echols County Health Department will continue to work together to monitor the situation. If you have any questions, please call the school (229.559.5413) or the health department (229.559.5103).

Sincerely,

*Shannon C. King*  
Superintendent