



Griswold Public Schools

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November 9th, 2021

RE: Notice of “Screen and Stay” Protocol Implementation

Dear Griswold Public Schools:

Last evening, the Griswold Board of Education authorized our district to implement the “Screen and Stay” protocol co-sponsored by the Connecticut State Department of Education and the Department of Public Health. “Screen and Stay” is intended to help improve contact tracing and potentially reduce quarantine, providing that eligible close contacts elect to participate.

Our implementation of the “Screen and Stay” protocol means that Griswold Public Schools can allow students (K-12, not PK) and staff, who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated, and who elect to participate in this protocol, to remain in school after close contact with a COVID-19 case, provided:

1. The only contact occurred during the school day (no extracurricular or social contact).
2. If indoors or on a school bus or other transportation, both the contact and the case were masked during exposure.
3. If outdoors, masked or unmasked but staff supervised (e.g. mask breaks, PE, recess).
4. The Contact remains asymptomatic (any symptoms revert to regular isolation/quarantine) and screens for COVID-19 symptoms for 14 days after the contact.

Examples of close contact scenarios that would **not** support a “Screen and Stay” approach would be:

1. Contact involving PK students in school; the “Screen and Stay” approach only applies to students in grades K-12.
2. Contact with a case during interscholastic or other athletic activities (other than during supervised Physical Education).
3. Contact where the case or contact is not consistently and correctly wearing a mask indoors (e.g., eating, wind instrument playing) and 6 ft. distance is not maintained.
4. Household contacts (i.e., the contact lives with the case).
5. The contact cannot consistently and correctly wear a mask (and cannot be provided appropriate alternative protective strategies) or cannot perform daily symptom screening.

In order to be eligible to participate in the “Screen and Stay” protocol, the following should apply:

1. The student/staff is unvaccinated or partially vaccinated, and the student/staff must affirm that:
 - a. They have read and understand the “Screen and Stay” requirements.
 - b. That they intend to screen for symptoms each day prior to school for 14 calendar days.
 - c. That they intend to remain home and notify the school if symptoms develop.

2. "Screen and Stay" applies to in-person learning only, and regular quarantine procedures should continue to be used for athletics, extracurriculars, and other activities outside of the school day.
3. Individuals in this protocol should not participate in aerosol-generating activities while in school (e.g., Physical Education, wind instrument playing, choir/singing, projected speech) and schools should provide alternative programming for affected students for the duration of the Screen and Stay period.

Remember, the "Screen and Stay" protocol will only apply to unvaccinated individuals involved in a contact tracing that occurred during the school day; the protocol can only take effect for individuals who meet this criteria and who elect to do so. For more information, [please visit this site that further explains "Screen and Stay."](#)

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sean P. McKenna". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Sean P. McKenna,
Superintendent of Schools