



# Benson Public Schools

ISD #777

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[www.benson.k12.mn.us](http://www.benson.k12.mn.us)

*"Exceptional Opportunities for Every Student's Success"*

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Health screenings for all students and staff are currently required for in person or hybrid learning. Benson Public Schools will be requiring parents to complete this health screening at home for their child. Attached is the Benson Public Schools Daily Health Screening Form. A form will be sent home the first day of school with students at Northside and mailed to families at the High School. Place this form in a location that is easy to see and complete this screening each day before sending your child to school. If your child checks any of the boxes, keep your child home. **Do not send your child to school sick.**

The school will need to utilize distant learning if we have a large number of cases. An easy way to prevent this is by keeping all sick students home to slow the spread of illness.

Benson Public Schools will be following Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidelines for excluding from school. <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/exguide.pdf>

Current MDH guidelines to keep your child home for COVID-19 symptoms include:

One of the following "MORE COMMON SYMPTOMS": fever (100.4 F or higher, new onset and/or worsening cough, difficulty breathing, or new loss of taste or smell.

OR

At least two of the following "LESS COMMON SYMPTOMS": sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, chills, muscle pain, excessive fatigue, new onset of severe headache, new onset of nasal congestion or runny nose.

If your child has symptoms of potential COVID-19, please contact your Health Care Provider for testing options or discuss with the school nurse. Students that have symptoms of potential COVID-19 should remain out of school for 10 days unless an alternative diagnosis is made by a Health Care Provider. If your child only has one of the "LESS COMMON SYMPTOMS", evaluate symptom and determine if your child is well enough to go to school. Do not give your child medications, such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen for new symptoms and then send to school.

If your child does become sick during the school day, please have a plan in place to pick up your child as quickly as possible. That may include having an alternative person that is allowed to pick up your child.

If your child needs to be out of school for an extended period of time, a Distance Learning Coordinator will contact you and coordinate how learning will continue during that time.

Please contact the school nurse if your child does test positive for COVID-19. The school will need to evaluate close contacts that your child may have had while at school. If your child is determined to be a close contact while in school, you will be notified and your child will need to stay home for 14 days.

Please call with any questions or concerns. 320-843-2710

Julie Loen,

Benson School Nurse