



2797 S. Isabella Rd, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
989-773-9889

September 29, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Families,

All local districts within the Gratiot-Isabella Intermediate School District are working in conjunction with Dr. Morse, the Medical Director for District Health Department 10 and the Central Michigan District Health Department to provide the safest school environments possible.

Under direction from Dr. Morse, RPSA will use the following protocols and procedures for students exhibiting symptoms at school:

In an attempt to reduce COVID-19 exposures, students with any of the following symptoms (new/different/worse from baseline of any chronic illness) will be required to be excluded from school:

- Temperature 100.4 or above or signs of fever (chills/sweating)
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache

While all or any of these symptoms could be the result of pre-existing conditions or other illnesses, **Gratiot and Isabella counties are considered to be higher risk for community spread of COVID-19 according to the MI Safe Start Map (www.mistartmap.info)**. As such, extra precautions are necessary. If a student is excluded from school for any of the previously listed symptoms, the student should see a health care provider for further evaluation and/or be tested for COVID-19 (testing sites can be found at www.mi.gov/coronavirustest or by calling 211).

Unless the student was a close contact to someone with COVID-19, the student may return to school if they test negative for COVID-19 or their healthcare provider diagnoses them with another cause for their symptoms. If the student tests positive for COVID-19 or is not able to provide another diagnosis from a healthcare provider, they must remain out of school for at least ten days since the symptoms first appeared and at least 24 hours without fever (without fever-reducing medicine) and symptoms have improved.

To assist you in understanding the process required to return to school, an updated flowchart is attached to this email.

Please help us as we continue to implement the screening requirements. If your child has any of the symptoms listed above, please do not send your child to school. Your assistance and understanding as we continue in our efforts to offer in-person learning during these challenging, but rewarding times, is so appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bergman
Executive Director