**COVID-19 Symptomatic K-12 Student or Staff Process Flow**

To be referenced with the Public Health Guidance for School Communities During COVID-19

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**Student or staff present with symptoms***

**Symptoms are consistent with COVID-19**
(see Example Symptom Screening Tool)

- Isolate from non-symptomatic students/staff – separate room or separate space in nurse’s office
- Send home with referral to healthcare provider
- Evaluation by healthcare provider/Investigation and notification by Public Health**
- Positive COVID-19 test (case) or person is a close contact to
  person with COVID-19 – isolate case for 10 days/quarantine contact for 14 days
- PA Dept. of Health (DOH)/County-Municipal Health Departments (CMHD) staff contacts individual or parent/guardian and school entity to provide guidance and recommendations, including isolation for the case and quarantine for close contacts
- Return to school***

**Symptoms are not consistent with COVID-19**

- Assess using normal school policies
- Return to school

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*Notifying DOH or CMHD staff is not necessary* for symptomatic students, staff, and faculty as other non-COVID-19 illnesses may present with similar symptoms. School nurses should contact DOH CMHD staff for further guidance if a parent/guardian/caregiver notifies the school of potential exposure by a student, staff member, or school visitor.

** For staff and students, who are not currently a close contact or quarantined, presenting with symptoms that may be associated with COVID-19 may return to school when any one of the following applies:
  - **Symptomatic individual/child not tested**: exclude for 10 days from symptom onset AND at least 24 hours after fever resolution (if present) AND improved respiratory symptoms; or
  - **Symptomatic individual/child clinically cleared by primary medical doctor, certified school nurse or other health care provider**: exclude until afebrile for 24 hours (if fever present) and symptoms improving; or
  - **Symptomatic individual/child with test negative**: exclude until afebrile for 24 hours (if fever present) AND improved respiratory symptoms.

*** There is no need for a "negative test" for student or staff diagnosed with COVID-19 to return to school. Follow public health isolation guidance.

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[Image 131x15 to 244x42]
[Image 255x15 to 370x43]