

COVID-19 Updates

December 4, 2020

Updates on related policies based on recent statements by state and national health resources are as follows:

- This week, the Center for Disease Control issued a highly publicized but nuanced change to their advice regarding quarantine. Their statement on quarantine is [here](#). The change proposed by the CDC allows for shortening quarantines from 14 days to 10 under certain specific conditions with approval by local health authorities. At this time, our local health authority, Chester County Health Department (CCHD), has not revised their guidance. **Montgomery school still requires a 14 day quarantine, regardless of testing status until further notice.**
- Last week, in anticipation of holiday travel, the Pennsylvania Department of Health revised its [Travel Guidelines](#). The revisions specified that travel restrictions only apply to children over 11 years of age. They also advised that PA would require those entering the state to test negative for COVID within 72 hours of their arrival or serve a 14 day quarantine. The CCHD does not support this recommendation, asking that all travelers enter a 14 day quarantine when entering or returning to the state after an overnight stay. In keeping with our present policy, **Montgomery School will continue to require anyone of any age who has travelled overnight to another state to serve a 14 day quarantine before returning to campus.**
- Effective December 4, 2020, the Montgomery School policy has been updated to align more closely with the CCHD policy for isolation of confirmed or probable COVID individuals. **Montgomery policy has been changed from requiring a 14 day isolation period to a 10 day isolation period following the onset of symptoms, provided the community member has been fever free with improved symptoms for at least 48 hours.**