## 3-foot rule ...

From page 1

The definition of a close contact - being within 6 feet for 15 or more minutes in a 24-hour period - has not changed. Granger said if a positive case is detected in the school, families should expect more students will be asked to quarantine due to the close proximity.

If local transmission rates increase and Whatcom County falls back into Phase 2, the 6-foot rule will be reestablished, Granger

## said.

Although the state's 3-foot rule change went into effect immediately, Granger said the district had to work with local labor groups to make sure the environment was safe for teachers. Hybrid students returning April

19 allows for all staff members receiving their second dose this week to be fully vaccinated.

Granger said the school schedule will remain the same. The only change is A and B week students will combine and be in class together every week.



In the Q&A, Granger encouraged participation in the upcoming family survey in May that will provide an opportunity for feedback from families who wish to keep their students in online-learning next year. Participation will help administrators plan for next year, he said. Students will default to in-person learning next year if they do not request otherwise.

"We're really hoping the majority of students and families will choose to return to the in-building learning model," Granger

Granger also encouraged those who can to drive their children to school or have those who can drive themselves as transporting students remains a challenge. The district is also looking for bus drivers.

More information can be found on the district website at blainesd. org/article/428633.



