

September 4, 2020

Prairie Families:

As we complete the first week of school I would like to send along a message of thanks. Our students and families did a fantastic job this week supporting and cooperating with the numerous changes we are implementing to combat COVID-19. Our goal remains to get students back on site daily as soon as possible, which will take the effort of every adult supporting our learners both at home and at school.

Before school even started, we experienced a high level of honesty and personal responsibility from our families as they reached out to self-report positive cases and ask questions about isolation and quarantine. Information and transparency are key to working together in these difficult times. We will release a list of current positive cases, quarantine and attendance rates on a weekly basis as we continue the school year. We will be as transparent as the law allows us to be in informing our families of positivity and quarantine rates within our schools. The rate of positive testing in our community and the daily attendance rate related to illness are the two key indicators driving the choice of the Return to Learn Model that will be implemented in the coming months.

With this communication, we are also introducing this <u>COVID-19 Reporting document</u>. This is a report that will be updated at the end of each week that shows current cases, numbers of students and staff in quarantine, and attendance rates for College Community Schools. All COVID-19 communications can be found our <u>COVID-19 UPDATES</u> page.

Next week we will introduce the COVID-19 Self-Reporting Form for individuals to self-report COVID-19 illness outside of school hours. This form is not intended to report illnesses or suspected illnesses of others. This form is intended as a way for our families to communicate outside of school hours so we can quickly begin working with them and public health on any necessary course of action as soon as possible the next school day.

While we have many weeks ahead, this first week of school gives me great hope for the work we can do with our families to make this a great year for our students. We intend to release a weekly communication for the first three weeks of school, then bi-weekly or as needed the following weeks. Again, our staff is working very hard to create a great experience for our learners this year in very different circumstances and I greatly appreciate your support of our staff and our district.

I wish you and yours the very best this holiday weekend.

In Service,

Doug Wheeler, Ph.D. Superintendent of Schools