

CROSS COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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Brent Hollinger, Superintendent
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August 27, 2021

TO: PK-12 Parents
FROM: Brent Hollinger – Superintendent
RE: Cross County COVID Protocols

The school year is off and running! As predicted, we have some COVID activity in our area and in our school. I apologize for the delay in getting out a school protocol with COVID, but we had many moving parts as far as getting input that did not wrap up until 10:00 a.m. on Friday. After numerous meetings and conferences with local doctors, Cross County nurse, area health officials, CC school board members, Commissioner of Education and school attorneys, I feel we have a protocol that follows common sense practice towards managing a contagious virus.

With the information we currently have, we will follow the protocol that is attached. Please know this protocol could change. Also, please know if we have a substantial outbreak within the school, changes could occur in a short amount of time.

We are working on creating a COVID email distribution system like we put together last year. We are hoping to have that in place within the next few weeks so I can get information out to all parents quickly if needed.

No matter what our protocol is at school, our best fight against large outbreaks is simply keeping symptomatic students home. In simple terms, if they are not feeling well....don't send them to school. Thank you in advance for your help on this.

I think my overall thought so far is COVID is still here and we can't be reckless about it. I do believe we can have a year that looks pretty normal, but it will take a conscious effort in order for that to be a reality.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,



Brent Hollinger
Superintendent of Schools

"Lead, Grow, Succeed"

Cross County COVID-19 Protocol – 2021-2022

Student or Staff Who Tested Positive

Four Corners Health Department recommends individuals who test positive for COVID-19 to isolate for 10 days from symptoms onset. If a student or staff member tests positive, the school district recommends following the FCHD isolation guidance.

Students or staff members must also be fever-free for 24 hours without medication and symptoms have improved before ending isolation and returning to school.

Student or Staff Who Had a High-Risk Exposure to COVID-19

The district will monitor students and staff who have been identified as highly exposed. Person(s) identified as highly exposed will not be required to wear a mask while at school, if showing zero symptoms and feeling healthy. If there is consensus where a high exposure was likely, a discussion could occur on whether a mask would be needed to be worn to better protect others around the exposed individual.

The district will not be asking healthy/symptom-free students or staff members to quarantine if identified as being exposed. The school will monitor symptoms for 10 days. If symptoms develop, student(s) or staff member(s) will be sent home.

Student or Staff Who Are ill

Students or staff members who are ill and/or have a fever (100.4 or greater) will be sent home. Students and staff can return to school when they have been fever-free without medication for 24 hours and symptoms have improved.

Communication

At this time, Nebraska is not in a State of Emergency or under a Direct Health Measure concerning COVID-19. A student or staff member's medical information is protected by confidentiality laws, and the administration will balance these confidentiality rights and the district's authority to disclose limited information based on the facts of each circumstance. For Preschool to Fifth grade students, due to students being in mostly self-contained classrooms with greater chance of prolonged exposure, if there is a positive case that may have caused high risk exposures, we will notify families within that classroom through an email. This would be the same protocol we used during the 2020-2021 school year. For Middle School and High School students, due to the nature of their scheduling and their school day, we will not be contacting families regarding possible exposures. Our protocol for 6-12th grade students is no different than how we deal with Influenza or other illnesses. Teachers of a student who has tested positive will be informed due to the need of setting up remote learning opportunities for that student who will be in isolation for 10 days. Other district staff will be informed on an as-needed basis.

August 27, 2021