

September 18, 2020

Hello Knights,

As many of you might agree 2020 has been a year of trying events, that being said, make sure we don't lose sight of the positives. As we bring our third full week of school to a close, I really cannot articulate my feelings about having students back in our buildings other than to be thankful. My job offers me the opportunity to observe the interactions between our staff and our students, parents...we have a lot of great things going on in classrooms and on-line.

As I shared last week, we need to remain vigilant and proactive in our response to COVID. I appreciate all of the parental support in notifying the school district as soon as possible with all illnesses, not just those "specific" to COVID. This allows our nursing staff, administrators, and secretaries to work through any communications that may need to happen. Our teachers and maintenance staff continue to clean rooms and spaces throughout the day and into the evenings to make the classrooms as safe as possible for everyone.

Here is our weekly update regarding our school district's current COVID-19 data. As I stated last week, I am aware that data can be pulled from various sources. We will be utilizing the COVID-19 Iowa website and the zip code positivity rate is from Black Hawk County COVID 19 Website.

Current data points as of today:

- Positivity Rates (14 day rolling averages)
 - Black Hawk County- 6.7% (down from 8.1%)
 - Tama County- 7.3% (down from 7.4%)
 - Benton County- 7.0% (up from 6.4%)
 - Buchanan County- 6.0% (up from 4.4%)
 - La Porte City's positivity rate is 1.3% earlier this week (down 0.1%)
 - Tama County is currently not calculating this percentage
- Iowa Department of Public Health Document
 - Current Conditions- Minimal to Moderate
- Current Number of Positive Staff & Student Cases- <5
- Current Number of Students in Quarantine- 33 (Up from 6)
- Current Number of K-12 Students Involved in Remote Learning- 51 (These are families who chose remote learning as their personal preference, not because their family has COVID)
- Average District Attendance Rate- 94.2% (down from 95.6%)

This week we were given updated guidance on reporting information to the public. Any data points that are "zero" will be reported as "zero". Any data points that are 5 or less will be

reported as <5. I want to be transparent as possible with our data, but respectful of an individual's right to privacy.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact your student's building principal or myself with any questions that you may have regarding our school district's plan or for other information.

Take Care & Go Knights!

Travis Fleshner
Superintendent