

# UNION COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

*"Education to Meet Tomorrow's Challenges"*

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Good Morning Knights,

As much as Iowans pride themselves on being "Iowa Nice", I feel Iowans also pride ourselves on a certain "toughness". That can-do attitude, we will get through this thinking and other similar sayings, I support this thinking, but I also encourage you to also be aware of self. I recently came across a blog post by Dr. Theresa Alban a school superintendent in Frederick, Maryland. In this post she states, "Adults will not be successful in de-escalating a stressed child if the adults are equally stressed. So, the best way to help our children through this crisis is to help ourselves." As parents we worry about our children, as we should, but do not lose track of the fact that you will be able do more and do better for your child if you take a little time to take care of yourself.

Here is our weekly update regarding our school district's current COVID-19 data. We will continue to gather and monitor data from county websites, county public health, and locally generate reports. The reporting system has changed. The COVID-19 Iowa website is no longer posting decimal places in percentages.

Current data points as of today:

- Positivity Rates (14 day rolling averages)
  - Black Hawk County- 10% (steady at 10%)
  - Tama County- 9% (up from 8%)
  - Benton County- 8% (up from 7%)
  - Buchanan County- 8% (down from 10%)
- Iowa Department of Public Health Document
  - Current Conditions- Minimal to Moderate
- Current Number of Positive Staff & Student Cases- 9 (up from 8)
- Current Number of Students in Quarantine- 31 (up from 23)
- Current Number of K-12 Students Involved in Remote Learning- 21 (steady at 21) (These are families who chose remote learning as their personal preference, not because their family has COVID)
- Average District Attendance Rate- 92.6% (down from 93.2%)  
Currently, average daily attendance "includes" quarantine students, we are tracking all of these students separately as well.

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