



November 6, 2020

Dear Seward Parents/Guardians

I know the warm weather this week has been a welcome relief from last week's cold weather. I hope all of you were able to see the community letter in last week's paper which was also posted on our Facebook page and on Twitter last week. As we see COVID-19 cases rise in Seward County and in Nebraska I hope all of us can work together to slow the spread of the Coronavirus. At Seward Public Schools we have also seen an increase in the number of student quarantines and our positivity rate was at 0.58% of our students and staff this week. This percentage equates to 10 students/staff testing positive out of 1700 students and staff we have. The Four Corners Risk Dial is at 3.0 for next week, which is on the line between orange and red. The Health Department continues to state that school data is showing little spread in the schools. We will continue to monitor our data and make decisions based on the factors that were discussed in my previous parent communication.

Please continue to keep your child home if they have the symptoms outlined in the screening protocol that is attached. What we do as a community on the weekends or breaks are impacting the schools. Many of our student quarantines are coming from activities and gatherings that are occurring outside of school.

If you or someone in your family have a positive result from a COVID test or were in close contact with someone who is positive, you can expect a contact tracer to call you. The call may be from Four Corners or other state contact tracers who might identify themselves as being from PRC (Professional Contact Tracing), Nelnet, DHHS or HHS. The phone number may appear as an out of state number on your cell phone. Please provide contact tracers with as much information as possible. When possible our school nurses may also help Four Corners with Seward Public School students for contact tracing.

The State and communities continue to ask all residents to assist in controlling the spread of the virus by avoiding the Three C's:

1. Crowded Places. Avoid gathering in groups where you can't maintain 6-foot distance from others.
2. Close Contact. Wear a mask or maintain 6-foot distance when you're with people you don't live with.
3. Confined Spaces. Avoid enclosed spaces with poor ventilation.

Sincerely,

*Josh Fields*

Dr. Josh Fields  
Superintendent