



December 11, 2020

Dear Seward Parents/Guardians,

At Seward Public Schools this week we have been able to stay consistent from what our COVID-19 numbers were last week. Our positivity rate of students and staff was up this week at 0.47% compared to 0.24% from a week ago. This percentage equates to 8 students/staff testing positive out of 1700 students and staff. We had 2.35% of our students/staff out on quarantine or isolation, which is slightly down from a week ago. The Four Corners Risk Dial is at 3.06, which is down from the week before.

The governor's risk dial based on the hospital bed capacity within our state is still in orange. Today the hospital bed occupancy is at 779 and last Friday it was at 845 we hope to continue to see this downward trajectory. We are in our first week of the new DHM. The outline of these changes are below and I have also included some attached graphics that helps show these new changes.

Outline of Changes:

Options to discontinue quarantine earlier than 14-days:

- Quarantine may discontinue **without testing** under the following conditions:
 - At least ten (10) days have passed since close contact exposure **AND**
 - No COVID-19 symptoms have developed and the person self-monitors for COVID-19 symptoms and wears a facial covering through day 14 since last close contact.
- Quarantine may discontinue **with testing** under the following conditions:
 - At least seven (7) days have passed since close contact exposure, no COVID-19 symptoms have developed **AND**
 - Results of a diagnostic specimen test (molecular or antigen) is negative that was collected no earlier than five (5) days since last close contact exposure **AND**
 - The person self-monitors for COVID-19 symptoms and wears a facial covering through day 14 since last close contact.

To return to school on day 8 the school will need a negative test result with your child's name on the results that shows the test date was taken on day 5 or later of the quarantine and shows that the test was negative.

We need to continue to slow the spread of the virus and what we do collectively is imperative. Please do your part as parents and community members. Together we are making a difference. Continue to avoid the Three C's.

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

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Josh Fields

Dr. Josh Fields
Superintendent