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Dear Students, Parents and Community,

August 13, 2020

We are fast approaching the start of school, therefore, we would like to give you an update of where we are at with our reopening plan. Teachers and administrators have been working hard to get classrooms set up and things in place to help ensure social distancing and the safety of our staff and students. We have a few updates to get out to you as some items in our plan have changed:

Masks

- Masks will now be mandated to be worn inside our school buildings per Governor's orders as of August 12, 2020. This is for anyone entering our school buildings.
- Masks are also required outside in groups larger than 50.
- Students will not be required to wear a mask during physical activities during PE.
- We will provide each student/staff member a Shepherd cloth mask. These will be delivered next week. We will have disposable masks available until our cloth ones arrive. If you would like to send your child with a mask you have chosen, please feel free to do so.

Public Health COVID Testing/Contact Tracing:

- Public health will tell us if there is a positive in our system.
- Public health will be responsible for contact tracing.
- Parents are welcome to tell us prior to us getting the information from Riverstone. We would greatly appreciate this help.
- Anyone testing positive will be asked by Riverstone to be isolated for 10-14 days.
- Public health will place positive cases in isolation until the person meets the CDC definition of recovery, at least 10 days from the onset of symptoms. They will also tell people who seek testing when they are symptomatic to stay home and self-isolate until they get a test result.
- If positive, they are in isolation for the duration.
- If negative, the person can return to work or school according to our normal (non-COVID-19) practices. Public health also makes the decision as to whom and how long people are quarantined. These individuals are deemed close contacts of a known positive case, meaning that they were within 6 feet or less for 15 minutes or more when the person was infectious (starts 2 days before symptom onset.) Once they identify close contacts from a case investigation interview with the positive case, they notify them that they will be in quarantine for 14 days from the date of the last contact with an infectious person.



Shepherd Schools will do the following:

- We strongly recommend any students or staff members who are feeling ill get tested.
- We will let students and parents know there is a positive case within our district after we receive the information from public health.
- We will NOT be stating what grade level the individual is in or what a staff member teaches due to health privacy laws.
- We will NOT be testing any staff/students at the school.
- We will shut down the entire district K-12 for 2 days for cleaning when there is a positive case within our district or more if guided by Riverstone Health. We will then use remote learning to teach students.

Athletics:

As of right now, we have no additional information on changes that are going to be made to the fall sports season. We will start practices this week as usual. Any updates or changes will be sent out as soon as possible to get you the most up to date information. We do have parent meetings scheduled for tonight. The schedule is as follows:

- High School Volleyball Parent Meeting- Thursday, August 13 at 5:30 in HS gym.
- High School Football Parent Meeting- Thursday, August 13 at 5:00 on the Football bleachers.
- High School and Middle School Cross Country Parent Meeting- Thursday, August 13 at 6:00 in the Multi-purpose room.

We will have a Facebook Live question and answer session on Monday, August 17th at 4:00 for anyone to get questions answered before we start school on Wednesday, August 19th. Please feel free to call and talk with your building principal if you have any questions and concerns as we get closer to school starting. I want to thank you for your patience and flexibility as we move through this time.

Sincerely,
Drea O'Donnell
Superintendent

