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December 18, 2020

Dear Nebo District Families:

What a celebration that our students have mostly remained in school all the way up to Christmas break! Hopefully the two-week Christmas break will allow everyone to renew, recharge, and help the COVID-19 case counts at schools go down. At this point, **we plan to have all of our “At-School Learning” students back at school when we return on January 4.**

As you are likely aware, the Governor just announced updates to Utah’s School COVID-19 Manual. This is the manual that guides most of what schools do, and these updates go into effect on January 4. Here is a brief summary of the updates and what they mean for Nebo District students:

- **School Contact Quarantine:** If a student tests positive for COVID-19, other students who were in close contact with that student **at school** will not need to be quarantined **if** both students were wearing a **face covering**. We will still notify the family of the close contact student and ask them to watch their student for symptoms, but they will not need to quarantine unless they choose. This new protocol should help keep more students in school and reminds us all of the importance of wearing face coverings.
- **Test to Stay:** When a school reaches the case count threshold of around 15 cases, **schools will remain open for At-School Learning provided that at least 70% of the students get a COVID-19 test at the school.** The school will set up a testing process during the school day and provide the test (with parent permission) at no-charge to the family.
 - Those who test negative can stay in school.
 - Those who test positive will follow isolation protocols and move to virtual (remote) learning with their current teacher(s). Any close contacts of these positive cases will not need to quarantine if they wore face coverings during the close contact.
 - Those who choose not to be tested at the school will move to virtual (remote) learning for a minimum of ten days.

If less than 70% of the students choose to be tested, the entire school will be moved to virtual (remote) learning for a minimum of ten days.

In the event that we are not able to provide COVID-19 testing at the school and implement “Test to Stay” protocols (ie., lack of test kits or lack of testing staff), we will move a school with high case counts to our “Alternating Day Schedule.” **This will only be done as a back-up alternative if “Test to Stay” is not an option.** As always, we will notify families at any individual school that may be implementing “Test to Stay” or moving to an “Alternating Day Schedule.”

- **Test to Play:** COVID-19 testing of student-athletes and advisors/coaches is being done every two weeks. Those who test positive follow regular isolation protocols. Those who test negative are able to continue participation. This has been in place since early December.
- **Winter Extracurricular Activity Guidelines:** Fan attendance is limited to parents/guardians of student-participants, with mandatory face coverings and physical distancing of all attendees. This has been in place since early December.

We will continue our current schedule of holding school **all five days of the week (M-F), with 45-minute early dismissal, for the remainder of the school year.** This will only be adjusted for individual schools that do not meet the “Test to Stay” criteria or that are moved to “Alternating Day Schedule.”

Please check www.nebo.edu/coronavirus for links to these latest updates, our District COVID-19 case counts, and other COVID-19 related information. You can also call your child’s school to get answers to specific questions.

We look forward to a successful second half of the school year and wish everyone Safe and Happy Holidays!

Stay home when sick or when waiting for COVID-19 test results

Maintain clean spaces

Advocate for distancing when possible

Remember your mask

Train on hygiene and safety