

**New Waverly ISD** 

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Dr. Darol Hail Superintendent Sheri O'Hagan Secretary

September 8, 2021 (Biweekly update)

Our update comes off the Holiday weekend and, thus, is a bit later than usual. From a perspective of the overall situation, we have had 11 students and several staff return to class which means they are no longer an active case. We have had more cases reported as well and as a result, our total number is holding steady in terms of active cases.

The two trends we have identified so far are: families are seeing a lot of transmission within the home, and some students are coming to campus with symptoms such as headache and sore throat. These two symptoms (sore throat and headache) are the ones we are hearing the most often for students who later become positive. We realize that allergies and other illnesses occur. However, please err on the side of caution when it comes to dealing with this virus.

If anyone in your home has been confirmed with Covid, please actively monitor your students and keep them home if they have any symptoms. We believe that in examining the two trends, chances are very high that once a case occurs in your home, it will spread if you are unable to break close contact. We can do a much better of containing cases if students who aren't feeling well are kept home for monitoring, even if only for a day or two. It will also be of help if you utilize rapid testing at home should your child not be feeling well. We do not require you to test and realize that testing can be cost prohibitive, but to help control our cases we do recommend you consider it when possible.

## Currently

- High School—We have 4 student cases since our last update; 9 total active student cases; Juniors (3), Sophomore (3), and freshmen (3). We have 0 additional employee case for a total of 1 active employee case.
- Junior High—We have <u>6 student cases since our last update</u>; <u>16 total active student cases</u>: 8<sup>th</sup> graders (1); 7<sup>th</sup> graders (3); 6<sup>th</sup> graders (12). We have 0 additional employee case a for total of 2 active employee cases.
- Intermediate—We have 2 student cases since our last update; 2 total active student cases: 4<sup>th</sup> grade (1) and 5<sup>th</sup> grade (1). We have 0 employee cases.
- Elementary—We have 1 case since our last update; 6 total active student cases: Pk (1), kinder (2), 1<sup>st</sup> grade (1), 2<sup>nd</sup> (1), 3<sup>rd</sup> (1). We have 0 additional employee cases for a total of 2 active employee cases.
- NOTES—Our total active cases have increased slightly. We have detected a trend at the jh where the most cases have occurred. However, many of the cases have a family component, or they have listed that spending time outside of school with eventual positive cases played a large role.

We will continue to look for trends and ways to help in dealing with this health situation. Hopefully we have a better sign in that our overall attendance has been slowly increasing. We want you to know that we will continue cleaning, disinfecting, looking for trends etc. We will also continue to update you on cases we get and continue to consult with health officials.

In Bulldog Pride