



***Pulaski County Health Center
Pulaski County Home Health Agency***

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6/17/20

Duane Doyle
Dixon R-1 School District
PO Drawer A
Dixon, MO 65459

RE: Dixon's Graduation Ceremony

The Pulaski County Health Center (PCHC) would like to express our appreciation to the district and its administrative staff during such a difficult and trying time. We would also like to convey a message of partnership in health during the graduation event that is planned later this month.

PCHC has worked hand and hand with your school district for the past several months making decisions and processes for the schools to utilize in a safe and effective manner. We would like to extend our help and professional guidance to your graduation as well.

A plan was created with the Superintendent and staff regarding the graduation event that was approved and followed the guidance of public health officials. Deviations to this original plan that decrease social distancing measures and increase capacity are not advised by the PCHC.

This virus is still present in our communities. As we continue reopening our economy and communities, we too must be relentless in our prevention efforts.

Our recommendation on graduation is:

- If at all possible, an outdoor venue would be optimal to allow for those guests to participate in this event with their loved ones and still be able to socially distance and be able to minimize contact surfaces.
- Limit tickets to 4 per student to be on the field
- Small groups of people released to and from their cars
- No handshaking or hugging
- Distance graduates from audience
- Offer streaming to an alternate outdoor location where attendees without tickets could watch graduation from a vehicle or social distanced from others.
- Recommend masks for times where social distancing is difficult.

It is also important to remember that we are a military community and there are active duty service members who have children graduating. Attending any large indoor event without the ability to socially

distance would be a direct violation of General Orders. They would not be able to attend without repercussions.

Prevention and testing will be key to a safe reopening. As activities resume, it is critical that we continue with prevention efforts both at work and at home. The following preventions should continue to be diligently followed:

- Practice good hand hygiene
 - Wash your hand often with soap and water for 20 seconds
 - Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available
- Continue to practice social distancing
 - Maintain 6 feet of spacing between yourself and others not living in your household
- Wear cloth face coverings when out in public where social distancing may be difficult
 - Face coverings have been shown to cut transmission by 50% or more
 - Heed caution when wearing a mask- you do not need to wear a mask when in your vehicle alone. It is also dangerous to wear a mask while exercising.
- Don't touch your face (eyes, nose, mouth) with unwashed hands
- Stay home if you are sick and seek medical care and screening for COVID-19 if you have COVID-19 symptoms.

We completely understand the urgency many feel to get back to normal. However, there are many factors that need to be considered prior to holding a traditional graduation ceremony, such as health and our military families. If you have any questions please feel free to call for concerns or a consultation.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah Baker", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Deborah Baker, MBA
Director