

Prairie Home R-V School District

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Prairie Home, MO 65068

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September 3rd, 2020

Dear Prairie Home Family,

As we work to keep students and staff safe during this pandemic, we will share as much information as possible with you, while still following legal and ethical privacy rules.

The District received communication today that a part-time employee of the Prairie Home School system has tested positive for COVID-19. The school district is in contact with the Cooper County Public Health Center, and Melanie Hutton, RN Administrator, for guidance and recommendations. The staff member is following the Health Department's guidelines for self-isolation, for the required period of time before returning to campus. Please remember that the district cannot provide specific staff or student information due to confidentiality laws and policies.

The District will continue to work closely with the Cooper County Health Department in their contact-tracing efforts as needed and will continue to do so with future cases. As an additional precaution and recommendation by the Health Department, **we will begin requiring all staff and students to wear a mask on the bus.** We will not fully move into Category 2. Once again, masks are strongly encouraged when social distancing is not possible in the school building. Classes will remain in their pods for classes and meal times, to continue to aid with contact tracing efforts. The re-entry plan is on the district website for review at your convenience.

If the Health Department determines that a student or staff member is at high risk of exposure, those individuals will be contacted by the Health Department and provided with further guidance. If you are not contacted, your student has not been identified by this process as an individual at high risk of exposure. Please know that any exposure related to the student or staff member would have occurred within isolated settings, therefore, we anticipate that the contact tracing will not result in a high number of individuals contacted by the Health Department. However, if your student is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, seek guidance from the Cooper County Health Department or your medical provider, *and please keep them home.*

Our district continues to take extra precautions (extra cleaning, increased hand sanitizer usage, etc.). Once again, we are trying to share as much information as possible with you.

Thank you for your support as we work to keep everyone safe.

Sincerely,



Scott Gemes, Superintendent

"Positive Learning Environment creates Positive Student Success"