

SARPY/CASS

Health Department

701 Olson Drive, Suite 101, Papillion, NE 68046 | 402-339-4334 | FAX 402-339-4235

MEMO

Date: 09.13.2020
To: School Superintendents
From: Sarah Schram, Health Director

SUBJECT: Transition to Phase 4 of Directed Health Measures

On September 14, 2020, phase four of the Directive Health Measures (DHM) issued by the State of Nebraska will go into effect. With the transition to lighter restrictions that are outlined in the DHM the Department would like to provide additional information to ensure that we continue to mitigate possible spread of COVID-19 within the school environment as much as possible.

Since late July the Sarpy/Cass Health Department has used the Community Risk Dial, located on our website, to provide an overview of the current risk of COVID-19 in Sarpy and Cass Counties. The risk dial is comprised of the following measures;

- Overall COVID-19 testing positivity rate
- Weekly COVID-19 testing positive rate
- Percent change in the number of Sarpy and Cass County COVID-19 cases from the previous week
- Average number of hospitalized COVID-19 patients in the Omaha Metro area for the week
- Average number of COVID-19 patients on ventilators in the Omaha Metro area for the week
- COVID-19 testing availability in the jurisdiction
- Weekly percent of positive COVID-19 case investigations that were initiated within 24 hours

Over the past nine weeks the Department has maintained a status in the “yellow” or moderate risk category. The Department will continue to provide guidance to you and other partners based on the community risk dial. Below are the public health recommendations at this time;

- Practice physical distancing, minimum of 6 feet, when outside the home.
- Utilize a cloth face covering, covering the mouth and nose, for anyone over 2 years old, when physical distancing of greater than 6 feet is not possible.
- Wash your hands – frequently wash hands for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer when handwashing is inaccessible.
- Monitor yourself for illness – if you feel ill with COVID-19 like symptoms stay home.
- Frequent cleaning and disinfecting surfaces – particularly high touch areas.

With the transition to Phase 4 there maybe additional questions that arise from so please feel free to contact the Department with any questions you, your staff or families may have.

For the most up-to-date information on COVID-19, continue to visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus or the Health Department’s website at www.sarpycasshealthdepartment.org/novel-coronavirus