DODGEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Parents and Community Members:

On September 30, 2020, the Dodgeville School District was notified by the Iowa County Health Department that an individual at the secondary level has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). We have not received any reports of other students or staff members testing positive for the coronavirus at this time. Contract tracing is being conducted. Students and staff members who are known to have been in close contact (within six feet for fifteen minutes) will be notified within the next 48 hours by school personnel.

To protect students and staff, grades 9-12 will be in a 100% virtual learning model through Friday, October 9. Students in grades 7 and 8 will continue in the 50% blended model. It has been determined that these two grade levels had extremely limited potential for exposure due to cohorting. All co-curricular activities will be canceled through the end of the school day on October 9. There will be no changes at the middle or elementary schools.

COVID-19 is thought to be spread via person-to-person contact through contaminated air droplets from coughing and sneezing by an infected person. As with controlling the spread of other viruses, we urge everyone to take the following preventive measures:

Wash your hands regularly, especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water, wash for about 20 seconds. Be sure to also wash your fingertips.

Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze into your arm. As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose.

The symptoms of coronavirus are similar to the regular seasonal influenza and include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath. Some people with coronavirus have reported additional symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, nausea, lethargy, lack of appetite, vomiting, and diarrhea. In some situations, the virus can develop into pneumonia.

Individuals who need medical care should call their medical provider to report their illness prior to seeking care at a clinic, physician's office, or hospital. Parents of students exhibiting flu-like symptoms or staff exhibiting flu-like symptoms are asked to contact the Iowa County Health Department.

We are closely monitoring this situation and will provide you with updates as we know more. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely, Paul Weber, Superintendent