

Moran Independent School District

"An atmosphere where learning and love go hand in hand."

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12/4/2020

Dear Moran ISD Family,

In an effort to keep everyone informed on the decision making efforts to resume normal school operations, I would like to reiterate the steps we are taking in offering the safest learning environment possible. Just prior to and during our Thanksgiving Break, several of our staff and a few students contracted the COVID-19 virus. Each of these persons have effectively quarantined, and / or recovered from the virus or will continue to recover until they can safely return to school. Moran ISD will continue to strictly adhere to COVID-19 mitigation strategies and effective quarantine guidelines. The entire campus was sanitized by our custodial staff during the Thanksgiving Break and extended closure. We are confident that we may safely resume normal class instruction on Monday, December 7th.

On December 2nd, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) established new guidance in regards to "close-contact quarantining." The Texas Education Agency quickly updated their public health guidance as well and released the following correspondence.

For individuals who are close contacts to individuals who tested positive, a 14-day stay-at-home period was previously advised by the CDC based on the incubation period of the virus. As of December 2, 2020, the CDC amended their guidance to allow two shorter options for the stay at-home period.

Based on current CDC guidance, the stay-at-home period can end for individuals experiencing no symptoms:

- *On Day 10 after close contact exposure without testing,*
- On Day 7 after close contact exposure and after receiving a negative test result. (this test must be administered at least 5 days after the last close contact exposure)

When individuals return to school from these shorter stay-at-home windows, they should regularly monitor themselves for symptoms to ensure they remain symptom-free and take appropriate precautions (e.g., more consistent mask usage) for the duration of the 14-day incubation period.

The extended closure after Thanksgiving Break has given everyone infected with, or exposed to, COVID-19 ample opportunity to meet all quarantine guidelines, old and new. I wholeheartedly believe that returning our students to the classroom as soon as we can safely do so is important. Based on this new information from CDC and TEA, Moran ISD will implement the new quarantine guidance immediately.

Should you experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms we encourage you to contact your physician. Please remember to report all confirmed COVID-19 cases to the school office immediately.

Let us all continue working together to keep each other safe & healthy.

Danny W. Freeman, Moran ISD Superintendent.

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