

## **Department of Health Services**

October 4, 2020

Dear EMS ISD families and staff,

We hope you have enjoyed a nice weekend. Please remember that all students, staff, and visitors are required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms **each day** before coming to a campus or district facility. As we continue with in-person learning and with the fall sports season underway, we ask that you take extra care to ensure you and your child are healthy when entering a campus or attending an event.

It is important to recognize that one lab-confirmed case on a campus could impact dozens of other students and staff members as close contacts, who must then remain home for a 14-day quarantine period per state requirements. This is why it is **imperative** that students **not come to school** if they have symptoms. Large numbers of close contacts on a campus could postpone or cancel extracurricular activities or, ultimately, impact a school's ability to continue offering in-person learning.

If your child is experiencing any of the symptoms listed below, **please keep him/her home from school, activities, practices, rehearsals, etc.**, and contact your school nurse for next steps.

- Your child is experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19
  - o Feeling feverish or have a measured temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
  - Loss of taste or smell
  - Cough
  - Difficulty breathing
  - Shortness of breath
  - Headache
  - o Chills, shaking, or exaggerated shivering
  - Sore throat
  - o Congestion or runny nose
  - o Significant muscle pain or ache
  - Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Has had direct exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 (also known as "close contact")
- Has been tested for COVID-19 and is awaiting test results
- Has received a lab-confirmed positive test result for COVID-19

Together, we can all help our schools and facilities to remain open and our activities to continue by proactively self-screening each day and following all health safety protocols while on campus. Please visit the <a href="Reconnect 2020 website">Reconnect 2020 website</a> for information about district and campus health safety protocols, screenings, notifications, and operations in a COVID-19 environment.

Thank you for your continued partnership and cooperation. Have a healthy week in EMS ISD!

Sincerely,

**EMS ISD Health Services**