



November 9, 2020

Central City Community-

Governor Reynolds held a press conference on November 5, 2020 about the rising number of cases of COVID19 in Iowa and Governor Reynolds reiterated the need for the public to remain vigilant in their efforts to stop the spread of the virus. As you may be aware, cases in Linn County have been increasing. At this time, Linn County has a 14-day average over 20%.

<https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/pages/percent-school-district-positive-analysis>

At Central City School District, we have some students quarantining due to close contact with a positive individual or as a result of a positive test. This is happening at school districts all over Iowa. The District's absentee rate due to illness has been below 10%; however, just this past week, we have had a significant increase in our student absenteeism due to illness (COVID or otherwise). The District's COVID related absences have begun to increase and the District's overall absenteeism rate is now over 10%. This rate includes students absent due to a close contact quarantine. The absenteeism rate for students who are out due to illness but are not on quarantine is 6.83%. This information is located on our COVID tracking dashboard.

<http://centralcitycsd.org/covid-19-resources/>

School districts across the state can seek a waiver to shift to full online learning for a temporary period when the positivity rate in their county or counties is above 15% and there's at least 10% student absenteeism. At the current time at Central City we are planning to continue with the current models for instruction. We will continue to work with public health to monitor local and regional Covid rates, impact on attendance due to illness, and other factors related to Covid in the event that would change at some point in the future. You can find all the districts in Iowa that have a request to move to 100% remote learning at this website.

<https://educateiowa.gov/requests-move-remote-learning-school-building-or-district>

We want as few students and staff impacted as possible, either directly by the disease or from quarantining due to exposure. In order to protect yourself, others, and lessen the chances of quarantine we ask for your help to follow the guidance from Iowa Public Health that whenever possible trying to maintain distance of at least 6 feet from others outside your household, and wearing a mask when in close contact with others.

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