



Southeastern Idaho Public Health

To: Parents of **I.T. Stoddard Elementary** Students
From: Southeastern Idaho Public Health & Blackfoot School District Administration
Date: September 28, 2020
Subject: Possible COVID-19 Exposure

A staff member who last attended **I.T. Stoddard Elementary** on Monday, September 21st was recently diagnosed with COVID-19. Due to the actions of the staff member, we do not believe there is a significant risk of transmission from this case. The staff member exhibited symptoms after last attending school and remained home until results of the test were received today. Again, due to these steps and other preventative measures, we believe the risk of transmission is low. We always feel the need to inform parents that a positive case of COVID-19 has occurred. We are so appreciative to our parents who continue to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 and choose to keep children home when they are not feeling well. Please help our preventative measures by monitoring your child for COVID-19 symptoms.

COVID-19 symptoms include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore Throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea and vomiting
- Diarrhea

Testing is available by calling 208-234-5875.

COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly through close contact from person-to-person. Some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus. **The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks.** These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

It remains very important that everyone continue do their part:

- Take everyday preventive actions to help stop the spread of germs such as wearing a face covering when in public, washing your hands frequently, avoiding touching your face when out in public, keep at least 6 feet from people outside your household, and covering your cough or sneeze.
- Stay home if you are sick, including during the time that you may be waiting to get COVID-19 testing results.
- If you or someone you know may have been exposed to the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19, call your medical provider or SIPH's hotline at 208-234-5875 to determine next steps. Do not attempt to enter a clinic without calling ahead first.

If you have questions, please contact Southeastern Idaho Public Health's COVID-19 Hotline at 208-234-5875 or visit siphidaho.org or cdc.gov.

Sincerely,

Brian Kress
Superintendent of Schools
Blackfoot School District