

## Morgan County School District Re-3 **District Support Center**

715 West Platte Avenue Fort Morgan, Colorado 80701

August 14, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Morgan County School District Re-3 Taking Steps to Keep Children Safe

Fort Morgan, Colo. – August 14, 2020: The Morgan County School District Re-3 has been notified of a positive COVID-19 test result of a staff member. As a precautionary measure, the staff members who attended the same professional development-training event are now working from home and are quarantined.

The Morgan County School District Re-3 in collaboration with the Northeast Colorado Health Department (NCHD) is working diligently to ensure appropriate measures are implemented to keep all students and staff safe and to limit further spread of the disease.

"Unfortunately, COVID-19 is going to adversely affect this school year. This is not the first nor is it going to be the last situation we will have to deal with," said Interim Superintendent Rena Frasco. "But thankfully we are prepared and have mitigation plans in place to respond quickly and effectively."

Proactive efforts are focused on safe and healthy classes beginning next week for first (1st) to eighth (8th) grades and at Lincoln High School, with a delayed start date for Fort Morgan High School (FMHS) later this month. Please visit our website or Facebook page for the most up-to-date information.

We are dedicated to providing the safest learning environment possible during this COVID-19 pandemic. With the guidance of NCHD, all Morgan County School District Re-3 staff are following guidance based upon the latest scientific knowledge about the spread of COVID-19, and health recommendations by the American Academy of Pediatrics outlined by Colorado Department of Education and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. These guidelines include:

- Wearing of a face covering over nose and mouth while entering and moving around the public indoor spaces within the schools
- Six (6) feet physical distancing for all students and staff
- Regularly clean and disinfect all high-touch surfaces and shared objects
- Temperature and symptom screening of all students and staff
- A staggered, modified hybrid schedule to reduce student contact at FMHS and Fort Morgan Middle School (FMMS)
- Altered bus transportation standards
- Positive case protocols and return to school protocols

"NCHD is committed to protecting the members of our communities," said Trish McClain, Director of NCHD. "We are working with the Morgan County School District Re-3 to assess this situation and making recommendations for safety of students and staff."