

11/15/20

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Sturgis Elementary has continued to experience positive cases this week at our school. The COVID-19 virus is spread from person-to-person, mainly through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Spread is more likely to occur when people are near each other (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes). Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Fever or chills
- Difficulty breathing
- Headache
- Congestion or runny nose
- Cough
- Fatigue
- Loss of taste or smell
- Nausea or vomiting
- Shortness of breath
- Muscle or body aches
- Sore throat
- Diarrhea

Recommendations:

1. **Answer the call** from the SD-DOH as your child may be identified as a close contact to the COVID-19 case.
2. **Be watchful for symptoms** suggestive of COVID-19 illness that may appear in your child during the next 14 days.
3. **You do not need to keep your child at home** unless notified by the SD-DOH that your child should stay at home or your child develops symptoms of COVID-19.
4. **Take precautions to avoid illness**, including:
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
 - Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others
 - Avoid close contact with people who are sick
 - Refrain from touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
 - Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue.
 - Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects.

For more information on COVID-19, South Dakota's Information Line can be reach at (800) 997-2880 or visit <https://covid.sd.gov/>. If you have any questions or concern pertaining to Sturgis Elementary, please don't hesitate to contact us at 605-347-2386.

Thank you,

Chantal Ligtenberg