

Deer River High School
101 First Avenue NE
PO Box 307
Deer River, MN 56636
"Home of the Warriors"



King Elementary School
504 5th St. SE
PO Box 307
Deer River, MN 56636
"King Pride"

HOPE. HAPPINESS. SUCCESS.

bagosendam. minawaanigozi. gashkitoon.

January 7, 2020

Deer River Families:

We were notified by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) of a positive "Blue Day" student case of COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) at King Elementary on January 7. According to MDH guidelines, the possible exposure dates would have been January 4 and 6. One teacher and one student have been identified as close contacts per the MDH protocol. Two additional students were identified as close contacts based on the bus seating chart. Those families have been contacted and the students placed on a quarantine plan.

MDH does not specifically recommend that your child must be tested for COVID-19 at this time. However, they are now encouraging more non-symptomatic individuals to take advantage of free testing options to help determine the local positivity rate. In addition to testing options at local healthcare providers, free saliva tests are available through the State of Minnesota <https://learn.vaulthealth.com/state-of-minnesota/>. You may call the Minnesota Department of Health as needed with concerns or questions at 612-268-4569. I have also attached a flyer describing a free testing event in Grand Rapids available through January 8.

If your child starts feeling ill, isolate at home and away from other household members as much as possible right away. The following links may be helpful in assessing your situation:

- [Home Screening Tool for COVID-19 Symptoms \(PDF\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/homescreen.pdf)
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/homescreen.pdf>)
- [COVID-19 Attendance Guide for Parents and Families \(PDF\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/attendance.pdf)
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/attendance.pdf>)

We are encouraged that Cass and Itasca Counties have been trending downward in their COVID case rates. Our hope is that our community will remain committed to the precautions that have influenced that decrease. A consistent downward trend will enable us to offer more in-person instruction and activities.

Sincerely,