Engaging students, changing lives

February 12, 2021

Dear Colleagues and Students:

These are ever-changing times. We know there are a number of hurdles to overcome; collectively we will accomplish the Chancellor’s directive and guidance by focusing our efforts on these two priorities:

- To safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of our faculty, staff, and students
- To enable students to progress toward their educational goal

POSITIVE COVID-19 CASES

This past week, we had one student and no employees test positive with no additional exposures. Our best defense continues to be handwashing, mask wearing and social distancing. Please remember your mouth and nose need to be completely covered to be effective.

MASKS & FACE SHIELDS

- Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) wants everyone to remember to wear a mask that fits. Properly worn, masks should not gap on sides, and cover the nose, mouth and chin. View the MDH face covering webpage for more information.
- In addition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends wearing masks that have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric. View the CDC mask fit webpage for more information.
- Please note, masks are still required after you have received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Effective as of February 2, 2021, masks are required on public transportation (planes, buses, trains, etc.) traveling into, within, or out of the United States, and at hubs (airports, bus stations, etc.)
- Face shields may be used in certain limited circumstances as outlined in Emergency Executive Order 20-81. When used, shield should extend below the chin and to the ears, and there should be no exposed gap between the forehead and the shield's headpiece. View MDH considerations for face shields.

MDH INFO SESSION FEBRUARY 26

On Friday, February 26, 12-1pm, Cynthia Kenyon, MDH Epidemiologist and liaison for the Higher Ed COVID-19 Response Team, will be hosting an informational session for NHCC employees about COVID-19 and the vaccine. Please send any questions by Monday, February 22 to victoria.deford@nhcc.edu. She will host a student session on March 5. Both sessions will be recorded and shared.

OPEN FORUM

The next COVID-19 open forum is scheduled for Friday, March 5, 2021. View recording of February 5, 2021 open forum.

Better Together,

Victoria DeFord, Human Resources Director

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