

Engaging students, changing lives

April 16, 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 six students and one employee report positive COVID-19 tests this week. In addition, we had four possible exposures. According to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), COVID-19 cases in Minnesota for people under 60 is going up so please remember our best defense continues to be handwashing, proper mask wearing (covering nose and mouth) and social distancing.

POST-VACCINATION QUARANTINE GUIDANCE

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated quarantine recommendations for people who have been vaccinated and exposed. If people do not have symptoms and it has been two weeks since their second dose of the vaccine they do not have to quarantine. MDH has not adopted this recommendation yet. The Pandemic Task Force has decided NHCC will stay with our current process for quarantine for the summer since guidelines are still being updated and are fluid. We will revisit this for fall.

RETURNING TO CAMPUS PLANNING

As planning begins for returning to campus this fall, we will share plans as they become available.

• CDC has determined that COVID-19 is not transmitted on surfaces, so normal cleaning procedures are satisfactory.

SAVE THE DATE

- Vaccine Hesitancy Workshop, Friday April 23, 12-1pm. Dr. Nathan T. Chomilo, Medical Director for the State of Minnesota's Medicaid & MinnesotaCare programs and General Pediatrician and Internal Medicine Hospitalist with Park Nicollet Health Services/HealthPartners, will be sharing his experience navigating his own COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and why he chose to get vaccinated. Zoom Meeting ID: 981 3636 6487, Password: 248697.
- Next NHCC Open Forum, Friday, May 7, 10:30am.

NHCC VACCINE WEBPAGE

Visit the vaccine webpage (and share with students) for access to resources.

Better Together,

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