



North Hennepin  
Community College

A member of Minnesota State

*Engaging students, changing lives*

July 16, 2020  
8:30 p.m.

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**

**MANDATORY FACE COVERINGS ON CAMPUS [EMAILED TO CAMPUS ON 07/10/20]**

The Pandemic Task Force is recommending in the draft reintegration plan that employees and students wear masks/cloth face coverings while in NHCC buildings. Although the reintegration plan is still out for review, given the current state of increasing COVID-19 cases throughout the nation, the Executive Team deemed it prudent to approve this portion of the reintegration plan to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of our faculty, staff, and students.

**Effective July 13, 2020, masks/cloth face coverings are mandatory to enter any NHCC building (amended).**

- The college will remain closed to the general public.
- The college will make accessible up to two (2) reusable cloth face coverings to students and employees who need to come to campus. Public Safety will issue them at CBT Door #13. Please note we are not encouraging students or employees to come to campus just to pick up masks. For employees who are teleworking, and/or students/faculty who are taking online classes, you do not need to pick up a face covering. Also, students/employees may provide their own cloth face covering.
- The college will have disposable (emergency) masks available at the Public Safety Office [LRC 101] for masks that inadvertently break or become contaminated.
- Masks/cloth face coverings must be worn in general areas while inside of campus buildings (hallways, classrooms, break areas, common areas, conference rooms, etc.)
- Individuals will be allowed to remove their masks while indoors if they are in their own office, alone.
- Masks will not be required while outside of campus buildings unless individuals are within 6' of each other.
- The college will sell NHCC branded reusable cloth face coverings in the bookstore.
- [Masks/Cloth face coverings must cover the nose and the mouth while worn.](#)
- [Faculty may teach in the classroom without a face covering as long as they remain six feet away from students.](#)
- [See attached memorandum from Chancellor Malhotra that requires people on all Minnesota State campuses effective August 3, 2020 to register through a system-wide COVID-19 screening tool and to wear a face covering while on campuses. The screening tool is being developed and is expected to be operationally tested no later than July 31, 2020. Stay tuned.](#)

**CAMPUS REINTEGRATION**

- The Pandemic Task Force sent the bargaining units and student senate the campus reintegration plan today for comment. All stakeholders were asked to return comments to VP Finance & Facilities by noon on July 30, 2020. The intent is to have the Pandemic Task Force & Executive Team review it and publish the plan by August 10, 2020.
- The Signage and Video Subcommittee briefed their respective draft plans to the Pandemic Task Force today. Both initiatives are progressing significantly and we expect to share the signage and video at the August 19 All College Day and subsequently have the signage in place before the fall 2020 semester begins.

- Pandemic Task Force recommended and the Executive Team approved that we will evaluate facility use requests (external organizations, student groups, etc.) on a case-by-case basis and then determine if the college should grant the request. Our number one priority remains the health, safety, and welfare of our faculty, staff, and students and we will keep this in the forefront when deciding on these requests.
- **JUST IN:** New guidance from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) states that if you've been within six feet and more than 15 minutes of someone who has COVID-19, you must self-quarantine for 14 days, even if you take a COVID-19 test and the results are negative.
- Facilities Director has ordered reintegration supplies such as masks, face shields, sneeze barriers, stanchions, etc. and is working with Central Services to print distancing stickers for the floors throughout campus.

#### **COVID-19 CONTACT TRACING**

- The Pandemic Task Force has established the Contact Tracing Subcommittee who will begin meeting weekly, starting next week, to develop a protocol for communicating to relevant parties if they have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. This will be a delicate yet daunting task. Our intent is to establish a solid protocol that is efficient, effective, and sustainable. More soon.

#### **VOLUNTEER AT MDH**

MDH is looking for volunteers for additional workgroups to compile strategies on:

- International students
- Disparities
- Music
- Other activities spaces
- Volunteer at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/L8LY25Q>

**Better Together,**



**Stephen E. Kent**

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