



North Hennepin  
Community College  
A member of Minnesota State

*Engaging students, changing lives*

October 30, 2020

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 NHCC had one employee with a positive test but this individual hasn't been on campus recently so there were no additional exposures. There was one student who tested positive. The Minnesota Department of Health has revised one of the questions we ask during contact tracing – we now ask "Have you been within 6 feet of this person for **a cumulative period of 15 minutes over a 24-hour time period?**" Wearing masks, social distancing and hand washing continues to be our best defense.

#### **SALIVA TESTS**

- All Minnesota State employees received a notification October 22 on the **Employee Home** that you can now access a free saliva test kit from Vault Health. The free testing kit is only available until December 31, 2020 so the test must be ordered **and used before December 31, 2020**. [Click here](#) to view Vault Health FAQs, and [click here](#) to view a Vault Health Testing Process Video.
- A semi-permanent COVID-19 saliva testing site has arrived in Brooklyn Park. The site is located in the Starlite Center, 8085 Brooklyn Blvd. The site will be open seven days a week for FREE testing for any Minnesotan who wants to be tested. [Learn more about saliva testing and view the hours online](#).

#### **MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REMINDERS**

- Please get a flu shot; they are available at your local pharmacies and medical providers.
- Celebrate the holidays safely, including Halloween, using [these guidelines](#).

#### **PANDEMIC PLANNING OPEN FORUM**

The next Pandemic Planning Open Forum is Friday, November 6 at 10 a.m. [Click here](#) for the October 2 recording.

**Better Together,**

Victoria DeFord, Human Resources Director  
[coronavirus@nhcc.edu](mailto:coronavirus@nhcc.edu)  
763-424-0955