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## Scott County Health Department

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September 17, 2020

Iowa Department of Education  
Iowa Department of Public Health  
Des Moines, Iowa

To whom it may concern:

Scott County Health Department (SCHD) has been working closely with school systems in our community to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, and inform their Return to Learn plans. We have also been closely following, the number of positive cases and suspected epidemiologically linked cases in each school system.

SCHD is concerned about the increasing number of positive cases in the North Scott Community School District, especially in the high school. Having an all on-site model, North Scott is particularly vulnerable to rapid spread of coronavirus in its facilities.

Mr. Joe Stutting, Superintendent of the North Scott Community Schools, contacted us today, and is equally concerned that the increasing number of cases in the past few days signals an inflection point to which he must respond in order to protect the students and staff. He asked that we concur with a plan to transition to an all online model for a two-week period to interrupt the transmission of the virus, in order to prevent an uncontrolled outbreak in his facilities.

Scott County Health Department concurs that swift action is necessary to prevent further cases in the North Scott Community Schools and that a social distancing model, such as Mr. Stutting proposed, is an effective means of response for the short term.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward Rivers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Edward R. Rivers, MPH  
Director, Scott County Health Department

## North Scott Application Supporting Document

At 1:00 pm on September 17th, Mr. Stutting, North Scott Superintendent, contacted the Scott County Health Department regarding the number of positive cases of Covid-19 at North Scott Community High School. At the time of the phone call our High School Administrators were in the process of quarantining our Varsity Volleyball Team, our Sophomore Football Team, and many other students due to 11 positive cases of both students and staff within one calendar week, 5 of which were reported today (9/17/2020). We are estimating that the number of students who will be quarantined at the High School alone will be over 200 students.

During the phone call, the Department of Health informed us that Northern Scott County has had a dramatic increase in positivity rate. One week ago our positivity rate was 8.7%. In the last three days it has increased to 11.8%.

According to the Scott County Health Department, the City of Eldridge has doubled the number of positive cases within the past four weeks. We are projected to double the number yet again in less than a four week time period.

Scott County Health supports the district in the decision to close our High School for face-to-face learning for two weeks.

The following table represents data we have collected since school has started.

Date	Active # of positive students	Active # of positive staff	# of students quarantined	# of staff quarantined	Total # absences (illness)	Overall absence rate for any reason	% Change
9/1	1	0	58	2	107	12.86%	---
9/2	1	0	66	2	78	9.39%	-3.47
9/3	1	0	69	2	83	10.06%	0.67
9/4	1	0	73	1	79	9.6%	-0.46
9/8	2	0	102	1	122	14.84%	5.24
9/9	1	0	44	1	60	7.3%	-7.54
9/10	1	0	41	1	64	7.78%	0.48
9/11	4	0	67	1	81	9.84%	2.06
9/14	5	0	74	1	103	12.52%	2.68
9/15	6	0	99	1	120	14.58%	2.06
9/16	6	2	103	4	123	14.95%	0.37
9/17	9	2	176	6	190	23.09%	8.14