

# Big Foot High School

401 DEVILS LANE • P.O. BOX 99 • WALWORTH, WI 53184 • VOICE: (262) 275-2116 • FAX: (262) 275-5117

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Dear Big Foot High School Community,

Welcome to the 2020-21 school year! The health and safety of our students and staff is our highest priority this school year. We want to assure you that we are working closely with Walworth County Public Health to monitor COVID-19. We are also receiving guidance from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the Centers for Disease Control. We look forward to our ongoing partnership with you as we work together to make education possible for all students. We want to provide you with some information on COVID-19 and share the steps we are taking to keep your student safe and healthy while at school.

## **How is COVID-19 spread?**

The virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to spread from person-to-person, mainly through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Spread is more likely when people are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).

## **The steps we are taking to reduce the risk of COVID-19:**

1. Asking families and caregivers to screen their student for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 daily and keep the student home if they are ill. Please reference the enclosed symptom checklist daily before sending your student to school.
2. Maintaining physical distancing as much as possible.
3. Installing visual cues to assist.
4. Installing physical barriers to separate students and teachers where physical distancing is not an option (example: cafeteria, main office)
5. Having school staff and students wear face coverings on the bus and in the school building in compliance with Wisconsin's Face Cover Mandate (7/30/2020).
6. Cleaning and disinfecting according to CDC guidelines.
7. Improving ventilation by increasing the amount of outdoor air and increasing total airflow.
8. Eliminating the use of lockers during passing periods.
9. Developing a comprehensive action plan in cooperation with Walworth County Public Health to address a positive COVID 19 case within the school.

## **We need your help, too!**

Here is what you can do at home to help keep your student and yourself healthy.

- Help them wash their hands often.
- Help them avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Remind them to stay 6 feet apart from other people outside of their household.
- Remind/encourage those who are able to do so safely to cover their mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when they are around others.
- Teach them to clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.

## Keep your student home if ill.

It is important for you to keep your student home when they are not feeling well. If you have any questions on whether your student should come to school, the best decision would be to keep them home, call in the absence and contact your health care provider to discuss your concerns. We especially want you to keep your student home from school if they are experiencing any of the following symptoms, if they have been in contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19, or if your student has been diagnosed with COVID-19. If you do not have a doctor, please call the school to be connected to community resources that can help you access testing and care.

## When should I keep my child home from school?

- Chills or shivering
- Cough
- Headache
- Muscle or body aches
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Temperature of 100.4F or above
- If your child has had close contact with someone who has COVID-19
- If your child was diagnosed with COVID-19

Brief, intermittent closures of classrooms or the school building may become necessary at the discretion of the school, Walworth County Public Health, or the State of Wisconsin. Please begin to create a backup plan if this occurs.

As we embark on a school year in the midst of challenging circumstances, it is vital that we partner together as parents/caregivers, students, and school staff. Open communication and respect is vital to the success of keeping our community well and the building open. Further guidance and education will be released in the upcoming weeks. If you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact any member of the Administrative Team or School Nurse.

Thank you,

Doug Parker, District Administrator

[drparker@bigfoot.k12.wi.us](mailto:drparker@bigfoot.k12.wi.us)

Jeremy Andersen, Principal

[jsandersen@bigfoot.k12.wi.us](mailto:jsandersen@bigfoot.k12.wi.us)

Bailey Racky, Interim Dean of Students (A-L)

[blracky@bigfoot.k12.wi.us](mailto:blracky@bigfoot.k12.wi.us)

Mike Welden, Interim Dean of Students (M-Z)

[mhwelden@bigfoot.k12.wi.us](mailto:mhwelden@bigfoot.k12.wi.us)

Katie Smith, School Nurse

[kasmith@bigfoot.k12.wi.us](mailto:kasmith@bigfoot.k12.wi.us)

## COVID Daily Symptom Screening

- Temperature of 100.4F or above
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for individuals with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
- New loss of taste or smell
- Individual has had close contact with someone who has COVID-19
- Individual diagnosed with COVID-19

**If any of the above present, do not send your student to school, please contact your medical provider for advice.**

**Phone in absence with details for symptoms to attendance line: (262)394-4550**