

## **Public Health**

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On Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, there was a Destination Imagination (DI) event held at the Osceola School District. Local Health Officials have been made aware that a person who has been confirmed with COVID-19 attended this event. Students from 13 school districts from Northwest Wisconsin attended this all-day event. With an abundance of caution, St. Croix County (SCC) Public Health is working with the St. Croix County school districts to ensure students and families that attended the event receive more information.

Students, staff, and families who participated in the DI event are generally considered to be at <u>low-risk</u> of having been exposed to the COVID-19 virus. The State of Wisconsin Division of Public Health's recommendation for these low-risk individuals is to <u>self-monitor for fever, cough, and/or difficulty breathing, for 14 days following the date of the event</u>. The State of Wisconsin Division of Public Health is not recommending self-isolation for people who don't have symptoms. Specifically, healthy students can attend school.

<u>During the self-monitoring time (March 7<sup>th</sup> through March 21<sup>st</sup>)</u>: individuals that develop the following symptoms need to self-isolate (stay home from work or school and avoid contact with others) and call their medical provider for guidance.

- fever above 100.4
- cough
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Do not go to emergency room, clinic, or urgent care without calling ahead, unless you are experiencing a medical emergency that needs immediate attention.

Please remember that we are in peak flu (respiratory illness) season and we know Influenza A and B are circulating in our communities.

In general, the following will help reduce spread of illness;

- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. If you are not near water, use an alcohol-based (60-95%) hand sanitizer.
- Cover your cough/sneeze.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home from school, work, and social gatherings if you are ill.

See the WI Department of Health Services and/or the CDC website for more information on COVID-19.

Thank you for doing your part in keeping our communities healthy and safe.

Kelli Engen

St. Croix County Health Officer

